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THE TIMES 50P

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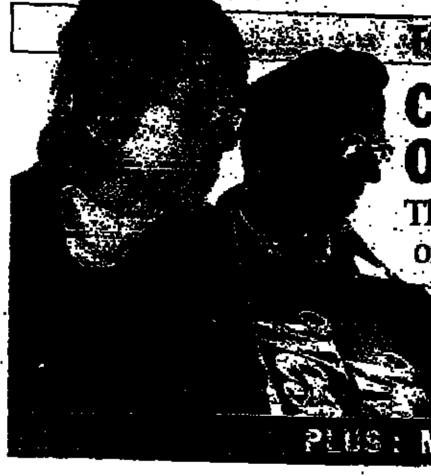
TODAY



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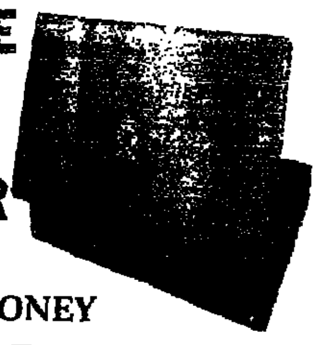

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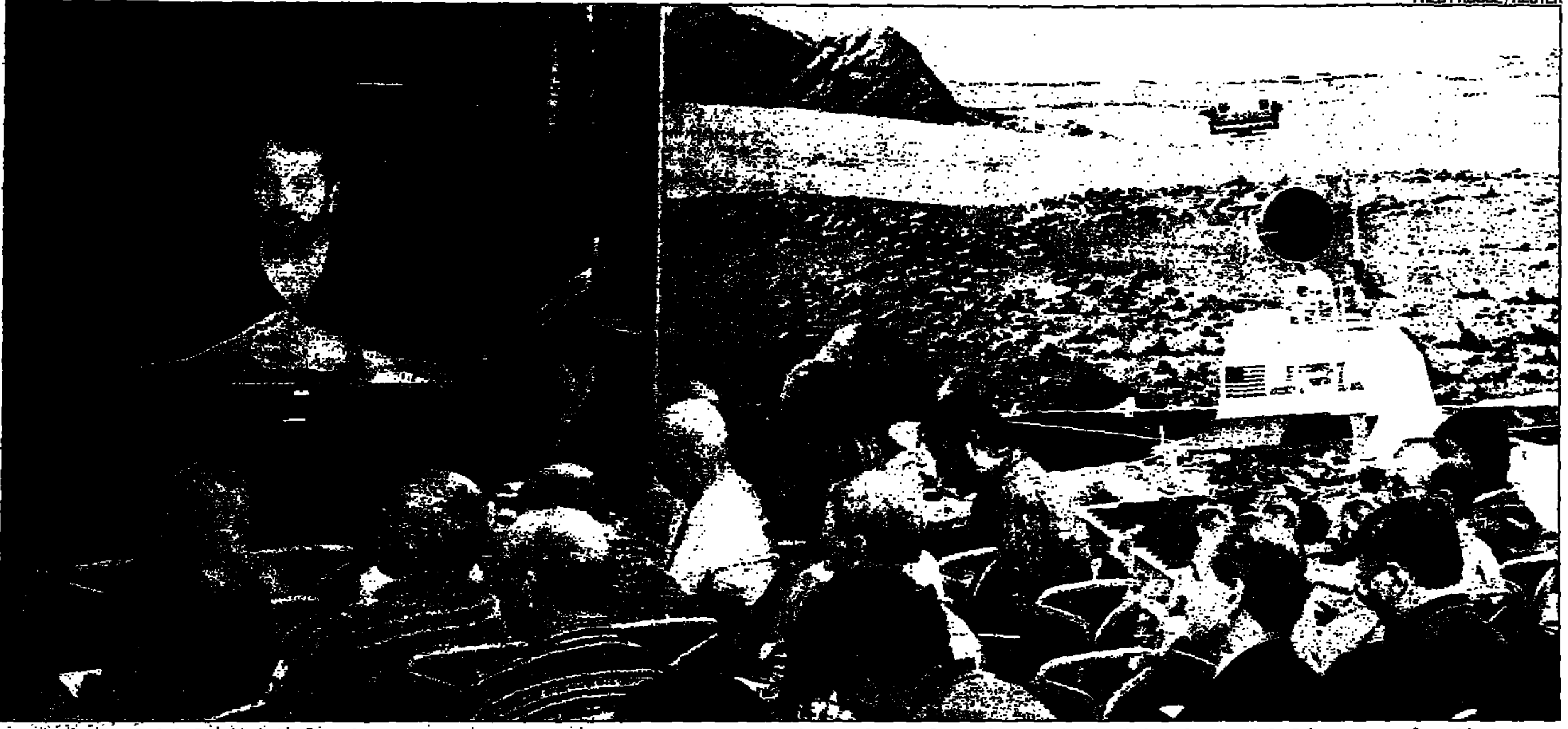
Independence Day on Mars

Pathfinder buggy safely down on red planet

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor



FRED PROUSE / REUTER

Reporters are briefed at Pasadena on the success of the Mars landing by Rob Manning, the mission's Flight Director. The backdrop is a model of the spacecraft and its buggy

MARS Pathfinder, carrying its 22lb remote-control rover buggy Sojourner, plunged *through the* Martian atmosphere last night, man's first visitor to the surface of the red planet for more than 20 years.

At just after 6pm as America celebrated Independence Day, Rob Manning, the Flight Director, announced to cheering *scientists at mission control in* Pasadena, California, that the spacecraft had landed and was broadcasting a signal.

"We're down," a delighted *Mr Manning shouted.* He based his claim on an unexpected radio signal received from the spacecraft. The signal indicated that Pathfinder *was on the surface of Mars* after its 309-million-mile journey and in a stable condition, although Mr Manning added: "There is still a lot to be done. We are not out of the woods."

The signal, apparently from the spacecraft's automatic landing system, suggested that Pathfinder had landed with the "base petal", one of the sides of the spacecraft, on the ground, the best possible *position. The news brought to* an end a nail-biting descent in which everything appeared to have gone smoothly. Controllers had applauded earlier when Guy Beutelschies, the flight engineer, announced that the lander section had separated successfully at the start of the descent.

Because Pathfinder landed during the Martian night, its transmitter was turned off to conserve power. When the *Sun rose at about 10pm BST* last night, controllers expected the solar cells to start generating so that the transmitter could be turned on again.

They were pleased with the accurate course followed by the devisce, so precise that no late corrections were needed. "It's been wonderfully dull," Mr Manning said. The mission is designed to prove that exploring the solar system need not be impossibly expensive. Mars Pathfinder has cost a mere £90 million; it reached Mars six months after launch. As well as putting America back on *the surface* of Mars for the first time since the Viking spacecraft landed there in the 1970s, Pathfinder was due to establish a number of firsts: the first landing on a planet without orbiting it, the first time a remote-control buggy *has explored* the surface of a planet, and the first time parachutes have been deployed at supersonic speed.

The landing place was a 62-mile by 12-mile ellipse in the southwest part of the original target area. Geologists will be delighted if Pathfinder managed *to hit this area because it* would provide a view of what appears to be a *1,600ft island* carved by an ancient flood.

That could provide hard evidence that *Mars once had* flowing water on its surface, increasing the odds that life evolved there. "It looks very promising for us to be able to see some interesting horizon," *Peter Kallemyn, the lead navi*gation engineer, said. Pictures from another Mars-bound probe, *Mars Global Surveyor,* indicated that landing conditions were good.

Launched in December, Pathfinder was designed to *shoot like a bullet through* space at 16,600 mph and enter the Martian atmosphere at a 14.2-degree angle. Too steep *and it would burn up from* friction; too shallow and it would skip off the atmosphere into oblivion. On Friday, engineers said that it was headed *for a 13.9-degree entry, mak*ing the trip a bit slower and hotter but within planners' expectations.

What happens after landing *depends on how Pathfinder* settled on the rocky surface. Scientists did not expect to get any pictures from the surface until early today.

Pathfinder ushers in a new era of exploring Earth's neighbours for traces of water — and perhaps life. Designed before claims were made of *evidence of life in* meteorites from Mars, it is not equipped to search for life, but it will be followed by spacecraft designed to do just that.

Today Mars is a lethal place for creatures that need water and oxygen to survive. It can be as cold as -130 C in winter and the atmosphere is poisonous — more than 95 per cent carbon dioxide.

Bouncing baby, page 5
Tim Hames, page 20

VIEW FROM PATHFINDER

BBC2 is planning to transmit live pictures from the Pathfinder probe in *Live From Mars* between 8 and 10.30 this morning. It is expected that images will also be available on the Internet at this site: www.jpl.nasa.gov/marsnews

The *mission badge* adopted by Nasa

Ulster exodus

An exodus from Northern Ireland got under way as fears grew of clashes over the Drumcree march ....Page 2

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Bill of Rights to be in place by end of next year

By Frances Gibb

A BILL of Rights will be enacted by the end of next year, enabling people to seek justice in British rather than European courts for breaches of human rights.

A White Paper will be published in the autumn and a Bill soon after.

The Government's pledge to act swiftly to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law *came yesterday from the Lord* Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC. Addressing a conference on the Bill of Rights at University College, *London, he said it was critical* that the Bill did not "disturb the supremacy of Parliament". Britain, he added, was almost alone among the major na*tions of Western Europe* "in failing to give its citizens a direct means of asserting their Convention rights through their national courts".

He added: "This Government's position is that we should be leading in the *development* of human rights in Europe, not grudgingly driven to swallow the medicine prescribed for us by the court in Strasbourg."

Lord Irvine is believed to *favour a version of the New* Zealand Bill of Rights, which gives no power to courts to override Acts of Parliament or strike them down because they *breach human rights.*

Other ministers in the Home Office, however, are believed to favour a version nearer to the more robust, *Canadian model, which en*ables judges to strike down statutes that are inconsistent with human rights.

Lord Irvine appeared to *rule out a special constitution*al court as outlined in *Labour's original consultation* paper including lay people. Human rights cases should be part of the mainstream of the courts system, he said.

John Wadham, director of Liberty the human rights group, said: "It seems that the Lord Chancellor is not going to go as far as we would like ... he seems to think that Parliament should reign supreme, even when denying *our human rights.*"

Cambridge observatory faces closure

By our Science Editor

BRITAIN'S oldest scientific *institution, the Royal Green*wich Observatory in Cambridge, faces closure.

John Battle, the Science Minister, said yesterday that *he had agreed to a plan* prepared by the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council to withdraw support from the observatory *and concentrate staff at the* Royal Observatory, Edinburgh.

The decision is no reflection on the quality of work done at Cambridge but with budgets not increasing, the council decided that it could no longer keep both centres open and support astronomers in universities.

The withdrawal of the support will almost certainly mean that the observatory will close, although the title may survive. It could be transferred back to the original Greenwich Observatory set up by Charles II more than 300 years ago.

The decision is likely to mean about 100 redundancies. Ken Pounds, the council's chief executive, said.

£2.4m saving, page 5

WPC disarms HIV man carrying deadly syringe

By Michael Horsnell

A POLICE officer put her life *at risk when she disarmed an* HIV-positive patient who threatened to stab hospital staff with a knife and a syringe containing his blood.

WPC *Karen Fry, 30, said* yesterday that she talked the man into laying down his weapons in a 15-minute confrontation as an armed police *response unit in protective* clothing stood by.

She said: "It is just a job. I was not scared at the time but afterwards my heart was *pounding, especially when I* thought about the 9 in knife and the syringe and what could have happened."

The incident, at the Churchill Hospital in Oxford on Thursday, happened after the 30-year-old in-patient snatched the syringe from a doctor who was about to sedate him and plunged it into his own arm, partly filling it with *blood. The man then* grabbed the knife from the hospital kitchen before running through the wards threatening to kill staff.

Staff isolated him in a corridor by clearing his path and locking doors. After he *took a seat, WPC Fry* volunteered to approach him. He *was persuaded to abandon his* weapons and surrender. Police arrested him before returning him to a ward. No charges are expected.

WPC Fry *said:* "We were slightly apprehensive but our first priority was to make sure no one was hurt. We made contact with the nursing staff *who had already sealed off the* area where the patient was.

"I thought that to start with the first thing that had to be done was to get the situation *resolved as quickly as possible* without using violence and making sure no one was hurt."

The married officer said that she thought on the spot about what to say to the patient, telling him that his problems could be sorted out. "*Basically I waffled and I* think eventually he may have just got bored with the sound of my voice."

It was understood that the *patient, who is in the infec*tious diseases ward, had inflicted head injuries on himself on Wednesday after throwing himself through a window.

Police said that a doctor had tried to sedate him after he became aggressive and started to cause damage.

Carl Powell, director of estates for the hospital, paid *tribute to WPC Fry for her* "exceptional response and sensitivity" to the incident and praised staff for protecting members of the public.

An award for WPC Fry's bravery is understood to be under consideration.

Mike Fleming, director of personnel at the Oxford Radcliffe *Hospital Trust, said last* night: "We are reviewing our security measures in the light of the incident."

Fry: said her heart was *pounding afterwards*

Sporting euphoria vanishes

By John Goodbody
Sports News Correspondent

SHANE WARNE, Australia's masterly spin bowler, recaptured his best form to take five for 48 and put his country in a *dominant position in the* Third Test against England at Old Trafford yesterday.

As the English euphoria at recent results in cricket and *tennis evaporated,* Australia seized the initiative after being all out for 235 in their first innings. England, leading 1-0 in the six-match series, were 161 for eight at the close.

Warne, who lacked his usual venom in the first two Tests, ripped the heart out of England, at one stage taking three for one in 38 balls. England were 123 for eight before an *unbeaten ninth wicket stand* by Mark Ealham and Andy Caddick edged them towards Australia's total.

At Wimbledon, American *Pete Sampras won his singles* semi-final in straight sets against Todd Woodbridge, of Australia. The unseeded Woodbridge said: "Winners *were flying all over the place.* He just played fantastic."

Reports, pages 46 and 48

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BRIAN LITTLE / PA

A Garvaghy Road resident finishes a nationalist mural 48 hours before the Orange march is due to begin

Fear of parade clashes prompts Ulster exodus

By Nicholas Watt, Chief Ireland Correspondent

AN EXODUS was under way last night as fears grew that serious sectarian clashes will erupt across Northern Ireland over tomorrow's contentious Orange parade at Drumcree in Co Armagh.

Belfast International Airport and Ulster's main ports reported a marked increase in passengers as hopes faded of an agreement between nationalists and Orangemen over the parade. Catholics, many of whom were burnt out of their homes during Drumcree disturbances last July, headed across the Irish border.

Those remaining in Ulster stocked up on food, candles and camping gas stoves in case loyalists cut Northern Ireland's electricity supply if the march is blocked.

With 48 hours to go until the parade is due to start, a massive security operation swung into action in Portadown last night. Police and Army checkpoints were set up on the main approach roads while armed soldiers were on standby throughout the Province.

Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, admitted tensions were increasing in both communities. Dr Mowlam insisted she would press ahead with attempts to broker an eleventh-hour agreement between Orangemen and nationalists in Portadown. In a lengthy meeting with Orangemen she tried to persuade loyalists to accept a compromise drawn up by Bob McCartney, the United Kingdom Unionist MP for North Down. Under his "McCartney plan", the Government would uphold the Orangemen's right to march their traditional route from Drumcree along the Catholic Garvaghy Road into Portadown centre. As a gesture of goodwill the Orangemen would then agree not to march this year.

Hopes rose early yesterday that Orangemen would accept the plan when Robert Saulters, the Order's Grand Master, said: "For the sake of peace it seems to be the only option left." Within hours, however, he said Orangemen in Portadown did not agree to the idea. The Grand Master blamed Bertie Ahern for scuppering any hope of agreement when the new Irish Prime Minister said in Belfast on Tuesday that the march should not be forced down the Garvaghy Road. Nationalists were also adamant last night that there would be "no Orange feet" on the street.

Mowlam: admitted tensions are increasing

If no agreement is reached Dr Mowlam and the RUC will announce today whether the march will be restricted or forced down the Garvaghy Road. If it is restricted Ronnie Flanagan, the RUC Chief Constable, will either reroute the parade or recommend to Dr Mowlam that she should ban it. Either would inflame loyalists. Alternatively, the march could be allowed down the Garvaghy Road. That would enfuriate nationalists and trigger republican riots.

Serious loyalist violence erupted last year when Orangemen were banned from the Garvaghy Road. Police reversed that decision after a four-day stand-off with the loyalists, leading to massive nationalist violence in Belfast and Londonderry.

Dr Mowlam made clear last night that the outlook was bleak. In a brief statement, which she read out on the steps of Stormont Castle, she said: "I recognise tensions in both communities are increasing and people are in need of reassurance .... We are continuing our efforts to find an accommodation that both communities can live with."

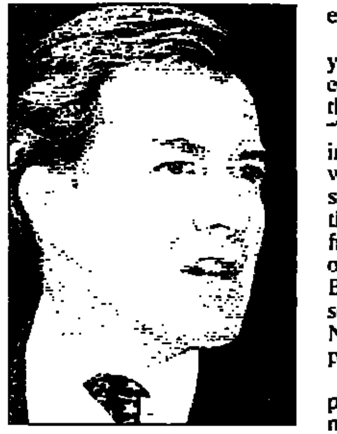
Moderate Orange leaders praised by Dr Mowlam for supporting the "McCartney plan" said they would work through the night to reach an agreement with Nationalists.

Lang rules out return as MP

By Shirley English

IAN LANG, the former President of the Board of Trade who lost his seat at the last election, has announced he does not intend to stand for Parliament again.

Mr Lang, 57, told a meeting of the Galloway and Upper Nithsdale constituency party last night that he felt it was time to make way for a younger candidate and he would therefore not seek renomination as their prospective MP.



Ian Lang: to make way for a younger candidate

He said: "Being an MP is a demanding job, especially in a large rural constituency. I will be over 60 by the time of the next general election and I feel that it is time to make way for a younger candidate to carry the Conservative flag into that election and win."

Commenting on the 20 years since he was first adopted and later elected to serve the rural constituency, he said: "They have been years of immense fulfilment, during which I have developed a special bond with the people of the area and made many good friends. They have been years of tremendous progress for Britain and it has been good to see Galloway and Upper Nithsdale share in that progress."

His decision to stand down prompted speculation that he may be in line for a seat in the House of Lords in John Major's farewell honours list.

Sickness at work is all in the mind

By Alexandra Frean

SICK building syndrome, the workplace complaint blamed for causing headaches, depression, tiredness and flu, is more likely to be caused by bad management and low job satisfaction than a poor working environment, a conference heard yesterday.

Alexi Marmot, an architect, told the Royal College of Psychiatrists annual conference in Bournemouth that it was a myth that poor air conditioning, harsh fluorescent lighting and uncomfortable work-stations made people ill, according to a survey of 4,100 civil servants working in 44 Whitehall buildings.

Locals fail to meet Dewar half way on Skye bridge

By Shirley English

A 50 per cent cut in how much local people are charged to cross the Skye bridge was announced by the Scottish Office yesterday, but instantly dismissed as "a sop" by angry islanders.

Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, halved the price of concessionary tickets for local people, taking a single car crossing down to £1.25. But the move failed to satify anti-toll protesters who pledged to continue their 15-month campaign of non-payment until the charges, the most expensive in Europe, are abolished completely.

Drew Millar, chairman of Skye and Kyle Against the Tolls, known as Skat, said Mr Dewar's attempt to pacify islanders by meeting them half-way had missed the point of the no-toll campaign. "The crux of the matter is the damage to the tourist industry and the knock-on effect on the island's economy. Businesses are definitely quieter this season than in previous years, that means less money to go around," he said.

The package of cuts announced in Edinburgh will only affect regular users. Previously a book of ten concessionary tickets cost £25.10, or £2.51 per crossing. That will now be halved to £1.25. A 25 per cent reduction has been introduced for commercial vehicles, down to £18.95 per crossing, and bus services, down to £11.45. But visitors will still have to pay the full charge of £5.40 during the high season. Myrna Scott-Moncrieff, general secretary of Skat, said the non-payment campaign would continue until the Government gave a firm commitment to abolish the tolls completely. Mr Dewar rejected this yesterday.

"We have taken the position of no tolls and we feel we have just reasons for that," she said.

Since the bridge opened in October 1995 more than 500 people have refused to pay and now face criminal charges. Around 80 have been fined for non-payment at Dingwall Sheriff Court which is clogged until Christmas.

NEWS IN BRIEF

I'm backing Blair's Britain, says Caine

Michael Caine, right, has changed his mind about leaving Britain under a Labour Government. Caine told Tony Blair that he would live abroad if Labour imposed high taxes. But yesterday he said he had decided that the Prime Minister had the right ideas, and that "you cannot leave the poor behind".

Caine, 64, told LWT's *The London Programme*: "I had dinner with Tony Blair and I said if he was going to go with 85 per cent taxes again, I was going to leave the country again. I said, 'I'm not paying 85 per cent of my earnings, especially at my age. I've got to save up.'" Caine's fortune has been estimated at up to £40 million. He spent several years in tax exile during the last Labour administration in the 1970s. Caine said Mr Blair would help Britain by finding "jobs for the burglars".

Hopes rise in BA conflict

The two industrial disputes threatening British Airways' flights inched towards settlement as hopes rose that the 1,400 members of the catering unit that BA wants to sell will accept a deal in a ballot on Tuesday. Delegates of the British Airlines Stewards and Stewardesses Association will meet at the weekend to decide whether to accept arbitration over the separate cabin crew dispute.

Cigarette firms in court

The first group legal action by lung cancer victims against tobacco companies in England cleared its first hurdle yesterday when a High Court judge, Mr Justice May, was appointed to hear the case. Forty-seven people are claiming damages of £50,000 each on the ground that the cigarette manaufacturers Imperial Tobacco and Gallaher failed to limit the health risks to smokers.

Business school backed

A postal poll of Oxford dons endorsed plans for a £45 million business school by a five-to-one majority. The vote of 1,280 to 237 secures a £20 million donation from Wafic Said, the Syrian-born businessman, and ends a period of uncertainty after the original plans were rejected in November. Last month the academics' parliament approved the revised proposal by six to one.

Phone ban ruled out

Motorists will not be banned from using mobile telephones while driving, the Government decided yesterday. However, it has promised a campaign to warn drivers against the dangers of using telephones at the wheel. Alun Michael, the Home Office Minister, said that existing regulations enabling police to prosecute drivers who lose control of their vehicle were tough enough.

Rail action cancelled

Industrial action by train drivers working for Connex South Central, which covers destinations including Brighton, Portsmouth, Southampton, Guildford, Eastbourne and Hastings, has been called off. Aslef, the drivers' union, is recommending its members to accept an offer which includes the introduction of a 37-hour working week and changes in work practices.

Times cook honoured

Frances Bissell, *The Times* Cook, has been elected a full member of the Academie Culinaire de France's British chapter, becoming the first woman chef admitted to the organisation in either country. Mrs Bissell, while pre-eminently a cookery writer, has worked as a guest chef alongside several leading British members, including Herbert Berger at the Café Royal. **Magazine, page 53**

Last laugh for the Lada

The news that Lada cars are no longer to be exported to Britain has prompted a rush to snap up the final 1,000 models of the much-maligned car to go on sale, including the Lada 1200 (above). Inchcape Motors International, the company that imported the Russian-built cars, said: "We expect to sell out over the weekend. With so few available, Ladas may well become a collector's item."

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Feathers fly over the owl of St Paul's

LEE HOPGOOD

Paula snapped on its eyrie by the RSPCA inspector

Experts clash on wisdom of caging cathedral's free spirit

By Damian Whitworth

THE escaped eagle owl that is devouring pigeons at St Paul's Cathedral was the subject of a heated debate yesterday. Should the bird be caught and put in a cage to end its two-year reign of terror above London's streets?

The predator, nicknamed Paula, stands 20in with a 5ft wingspan and has the capacity to kill a dog or small deer. An RSPCA officer who has been tracking the bird for two years caused dismay among fellow experts when he said that he would like to capture it. Inspector Lee Hopgood was winched up on a hydraulic platform to within a few feet of the bird as it perched on a ledge. He told Radio 4's *Today* programme that he had wanted to get it into a cage. "There's a very slim chance of catching it — I would have liked to have done," he said. The bird gave him a hard stare and flew off.

Sir Christopher Lever, an expert on the introduction of animals into the wild, said he had been shocked by talk of catching the owl. "I was rather concerned to hear that chap say he wanted to catch it and put it in a cage. Why the RSPCA wants to do that I don't know. It is doing no harm to anybody, it isn't injured, why not leave it in peace? It has been around for two years and hasn't yet killed a cat or a dog, so I think the likelihood of it doing so is extremely remote. It is killing pigeons and rats, which could be said to be beneficial."

Hopgood: bird would be difficult to catch

Mr Hopgood believes that the bird, which has leather anklets that prove it was once in captivity, is the one that was spotted in Regent's Park about two years ago and made contact with Max, a male eagle owl, in London Zoo. It was also seen in Camden Parkway. "I would have hoped it was the same bird," he said. "I hope there are not any more flying around."

Simon Tonge, senior curator at London Zoo, said Max and the female owl had hooted at each other and this led the zoo to suspect the female of preying on its other birds. "We had a group of mongooses in a fox-proof enclosure but we found one dead on the other side of the zoo. Eagle owls are quite awesome things and have been known to kill eagles in their nests."

Mr Tonge said there had been a report a couple of years ago of a large bird of prey swooping down on a dog in Regent's Park but there was no evidence that it was the eagle owl. The birds, which are not native to Britain, have been known to kill dogs and roe deer on the Continent, but experts agree that they have to be very hungry to make such attacks.

The St Paul's owl was thought to be eating squirrels and waterfowl from parks but mainly picking off plump pigeons as they slept. "There's so much plentiful prey, it's on a plate," said Mr Hopgood. "It won't have the need to take anything bigger. It won't take birds in flight, but when they are roosting. They won't hear it coming, it's just 'bosh!' and there's lunch."

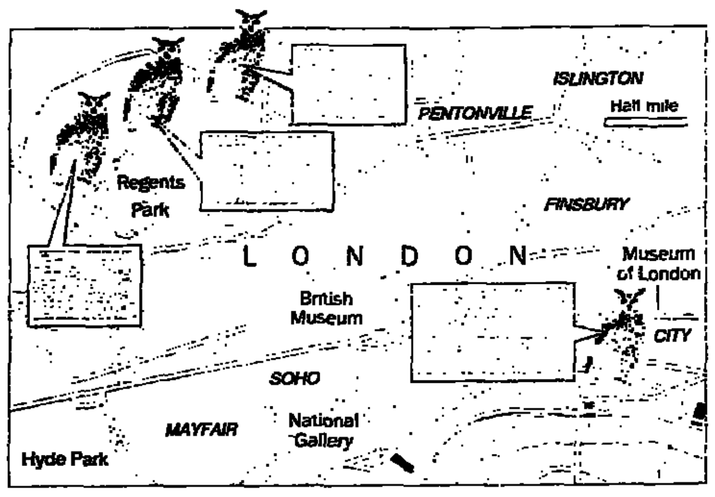
Mr Tonge said that there was no legal reason why a bird that had escaped from captivity should not be caught by someone but he echoed Sir Christopher's view that it was best to leave it alone.

Last night Mr Hopgood conceded that their arguments had merit. "The bottom line is that it is not supposed to be there. But it would be very difficult to catch it. it is obviously coping quite well and it is not a threat to the public." He would continue to monitor the owl every two weeks and would try to catch it only if it was trapped or ill.

He may be in for a long-term relationship. Eagle owls can live to be 30. "It could be around for 20-odd years," he said.

Feather report, Weekend page 13

Max, the London Zoo owl believed to have met Paula



Burglar was expert 'worthy of part on Antiques Roadshow'

By Lin Jenkins

A BURGLAR with a knowledge of antiques that could have earned him a place as an expert on *Antiques Roadshow* led a gang that carried out more than 150 burglaries on country houses, a court was told yesterday.

Nick Stock planned the burglaries, had telephone wires cut and burglar alarms disabled, and then sent in his teams of burglars. They stole goods worth more than £500,000 including silverware, paintings, furniture, a car and a safe.

Stephen Parish, for the prosecution, told Winchester Crown Court: "His victims included judges, knights, titled ladies, a vice-admiral and a lady said by one of the gang to be related to the Queen. But this was not because he was some sort of Robin Hood figure, far from it. He was wholely indifferent to the age and status of his victims. There was nothing romantic about him."

He said Stock was "ruthless, violent and sometimes sadistic". He was caught when an accomplice became fearful for his own life and asked police for protection.

Stock, 33, of Fareham, Hampshire, pleaded guilty to three charges of conspiracy to burgle and will be sentenced at the end of the trial of nine others alleged to have been involved.

Mr Parish said Stock would reconnoitre during daylight, studying items and dismissing them if he thought they were not genuine.

"He was an expert. He could probably star in *The Antiques Road Show*. Stock did not care if people were in or out when he burgled their homes. He got people to cut the telephone or burglar alarm wires and waited to see if doing this alerted the local police." Sometimes he waited until people were at home, because they did not usually switch their burglar alarms on while inside.

Stock used threats and intimidation sometimes to get people to commit the burglary for him, rarely entering the houses himself. He directed his teams from near by and afterwards would tell them to hide the goods, collecting them later.

Many times he was stopped in a car late at night in the area where a burglary had been committed, Mr Parish said. "But there was nothing in the car and nothing to connect him with the burglary so they had to let him go. He considered himself invulnerable and above the law, and for something like five years he was."

The nine other men, who deny burglary and conspiracy to burgle, are: Anthony Hensman, 24, of Gosport; Mark Jenkins, 30, of Gosport; Wayne Law, 32, of Cwmduad, Carmarthen; Darren Nicholas, 22, of Crookhorn; Karl West, 27, of Portsmouth; Kevin Wilcox, 26, of Lee-on-Solent; Richard Bateman, 32, of Fareham; Dean Parr, 30, of Fareham; and Michael Pearce, 38, of Sarisbury Green.

The trial continues.

The Quarry Men in 1957: McCartney right of the mike and Lennon to its left

Band that gave birth to Beatles plays again

By Carol Midgley, Media Correspondent

THE Quarry Men, the little-known Liverpool band whose performance at a fête helped to give rise to The Beatles, is reforming for one day today to commemorate the first meeting of John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

Forty years ago tomorrow — July 6, 1957 — they met at the Woolton village fête, Liverpool, where the entertainment included the Band Of The Cheshire Yeomanry and the City of Liverpool Police Dogs.

McCartney, then 15, saw Lennon, 16, playing guitar in the Quarry Men skiffle group and was impressed by his voice. They struck up an instant friendship and formed the Beatles. But the rest of the line-up went their separate ways and never played together again.

Tonight the former members of the Quarry Men, now in their fifties, will perform at the same venue, St Peter's Church, Woolton.

Yesterday Colin Hanton, 58, the original drummer, who now runs an upholstery business, said: "To be honest, I was never really a very good drummer all those years ago, and I haven't improved since."

The rest of the band are Pete Shotton on washboard, Rod Davis, banjo, Eric Griffiths, guitar, and Len Garry, tea-chest bass.

In an interview to mark the reunion, Sir Paul McCartney said of that first encounter with Lennon: "I can remember him now, singing in a kind of checked shirt, this guy with the slightly curly hair. I thought, 'He looks good. I wouldn't mind being in a group with him.'"

In a few days they had met again to play together and their career as a partnership began.

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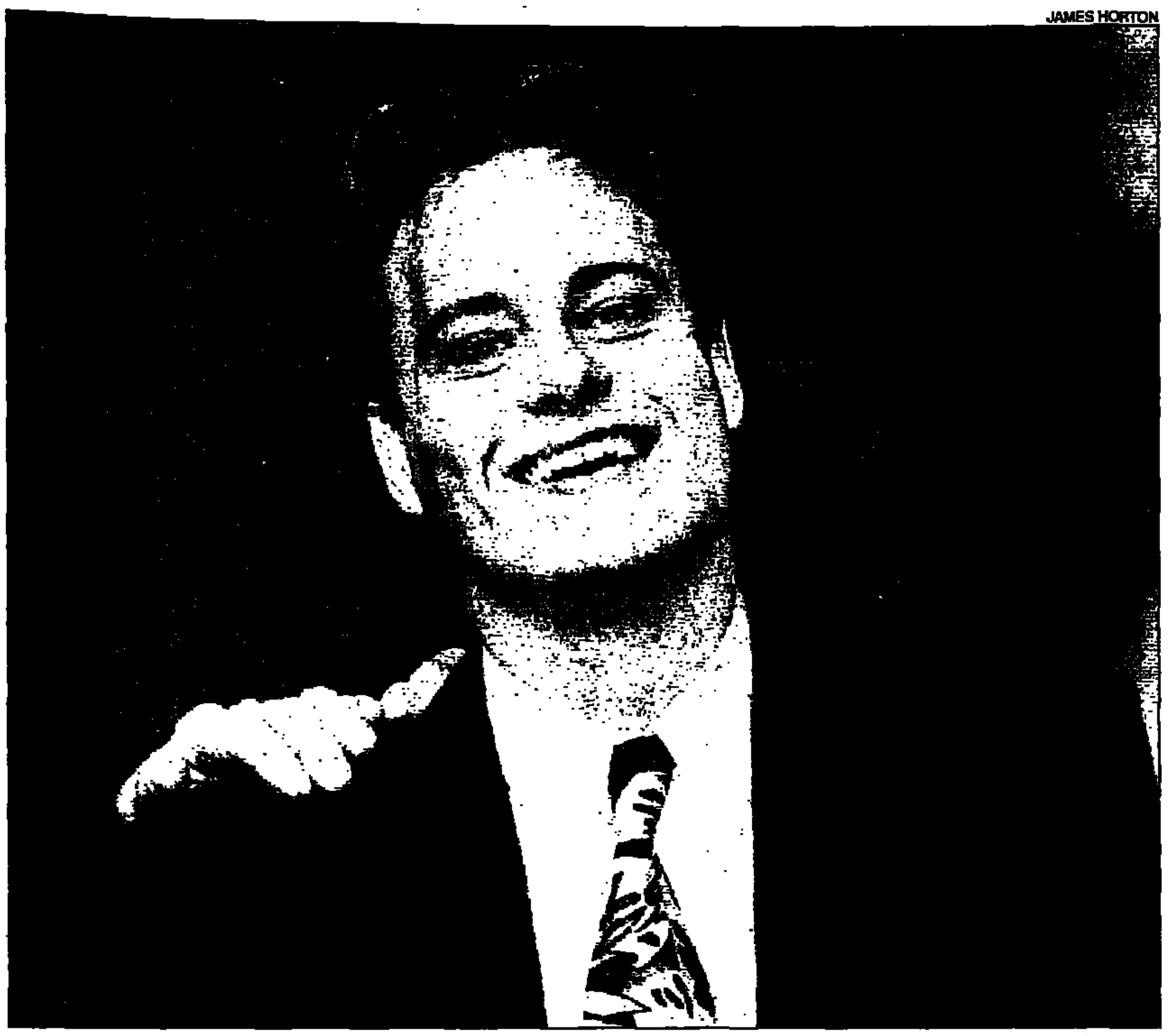


Paul Esslemont as he left the Court of Appeal yesterday. He wept in the dock when told he would be set free

Conviction for killing boy, 3, ruled unsafe

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

A MAN walked free from court yesterday after judges ruled that his conviction for killing a three-year-old boy was unsafe. Paul Esslemont, now 21, wept in the dock as the Court of Appeal said that in the light of new evidence his manslaughter conviction could not be upheld.

Mr Esslemont was convicted after the prosecution said that he had half-strangled Carl Kennedy, who lived near him at Willenhall in Coventry, with the child's football shirt, and then hit him 15 times in the face with a golf club. He was acquitted of murder in May 1993 but found guilty of manslaughter by a majority of 10-2 and sentenced to eight years' detention.

Yesterday after a tearful reunion with his family, he said: "I am very relieved by the judgment. It's been an enormous strain on me, my family and friends. I would like to thank them and my legal team for believing in my innocence."

Mr Esslemont said that his life inside jail had involved "a lot of hassle at the start. There were a few physical assaults which weren't too bad, but they still had an effect on me and got me quite depressed. But there were some prison officers who helped me a lot. They were very good to me."

His first appeal was dismissed in March 1994 but an investigation by BBC Television's *Rough Justice* disclosed new evidence which was presented to Michael Howard, the then Home Secretary. He referred the case back to the Court of Appeal.

Mr Esslemont, who was of good character and finishing his GCSEs, maintained his innocence throughout his trial at Birmingham Crown Court. He said that he had been playing with a golf club and golf ball on a recreation ground when Carl asked if he could join in.

Mr Esslemont said he sent him away, later helping with the search for the missing boy and phoning the police. Blood traces found on the club and on his training shoes might have been deposited there when he walked through grass spattered with the dead boy's blood, he claimed.

Carl Kennedy: police will not reopen case

At his trial a Home Office pathologist said that all Carl's injuries could have been inflicted with the golf club, but fresh evidence cast doubt on that. Professor Bernard Knight, a pathologist, said some injuries were too sharply lacerated to have been caused by a very blunt instrument.

Lord Justice Leggatt said as it was now accepted that all of the injuries could not have been caused by the club, either another weapon would have had to be used, or all the injuries were inflicted with another weapon.

"Since to cause the injuries, an assailant would have had to hold the golf club in both hands to prevent it twisting, he could not have held a second weapon at the same time. Yet all the injuries were inflicted from approximately the same position. That militates against two weapons, and indeed two killers. So it now seems probable that the weapon used was not the golf club."

He added that new experiments that attributed the blood stains to walking and flicking the golf club through blood-stained grass did not establish a "very compelling account" but did afford a "possible explanation".

The judges said that Mr Esslemont would have had only 15 minutes at the most to carry out the killing and go back to his home, before returning the golf ball that he had borrowed from a neighbour.

Having left the club in the kitchen, when, according to the Crown he cleaned it, he then went back out to chat with the neighbour who was sitting on the doorstep with Mr Esslemont's stepmother.

"Yet there is no evidence that anybody saw anything amiss, either in his manner or in the way of blood on the appellant himself or on his clothing or golf club," Lord Justice Leggatt said.

He added: "Because no pathologist was available to the defence who was prepared to contradict the Crown's evidence about how Carl's injuries were caused, the jury had no option but to assume that they could all have been caused by the appellant's golf club."

West Midlands Police said that they had no plans to reopen the case.

Outside court, Mr Esslemont's father Martin, 46, said: "I want to know why it has taken so long. They had this evidence two years ago."

Rough Justice had screened its programme revealing the evidence in May 1995. He added: "I am very pleased. It has been a long time getting to this stage.

The BBC programme has recently broadcast its twenty-fifth case. Nine prisoners have been released after being featured, and three other cases are being considered by the Criminal Cases Review Commission.

NEWS IN BRIEF

IRA man allowed police bail

A self-confessed IRA man arrested at the Old Bailey after being acquitted of plotting to blow up electricity substations was released on police bail yesterday.

During the trial of eight men accused of plotting the bombing last year, Martin Murphy, 39, told the court he had come to England last July to give other IRA men a written message. He denied knowing its contents and said he had no involvement in explosives. He also denied being a senior IRA member.

Pub thief freed

Norman Wright, 49, a pub landlord from Selston, Nottinghamshire, who admitted stealing £2,500 from a Dunblane collection, has been given a four-month suspended sentence by Mansfield magistrates because reports said he might attempt suicide in prison.

West brother held

Graham Letts, 40, brother of Rosemary West, the mass murderer, was jailed for 12 months yesterday at Bristol Crown Court for making a hoax bomb call. Letts, of Gloucester, admitted saying that a bomb was at the Beach Hotel in Weston-super-Mare on New Year's day.

Policeman jailed

PC David Keyte, 42, who illegally obtained the names, addresses and sometimes previous convictions of 200 car owners, was jailed for two years by Southwark Crown Court in London. He worked with a former colleague and a private detective to access the police national computer.

Salmonella rise

The number of confirmed cases in the latest salmonella food poisoning outbreak has risen to 48, an increase of 22 cases in the Borders over the previous 24 hours. A further 16 are believed to be infected but are awaiting test results. Most of those affected live in St Boswells.

Mad cat attack

A pet Persian cat suspected by vets of having animal schizophrenia was put down after attacking June Bates, 61, of Langley, Berkshire, and her daughter, Catherine Macritchie, 21, who suffered 90 cuts and scratches. Nurses at first thought the pair had been in a car crash.

Six years for car thief who killed girl

By a Staff Reporter

A DRUNKEN car thief who killed a schoolgirl as she played outside her home was yesterday ordered to be detained for six years. The 17-year-old driver hit Teleri West, 9, when the car mounted the pavement at 60mph.

A court was told that the teenager had drunk eight pints of strong lager before getting into the Vauxhall Nova. Keith Thomas, for the prosecution, said that after the accident the youth staggered from the car and dropped a can of cider on the road. Neighbours heard him sobbing: "Have I hit anyone? I'm going to get life. It's murder. The car is stolen."

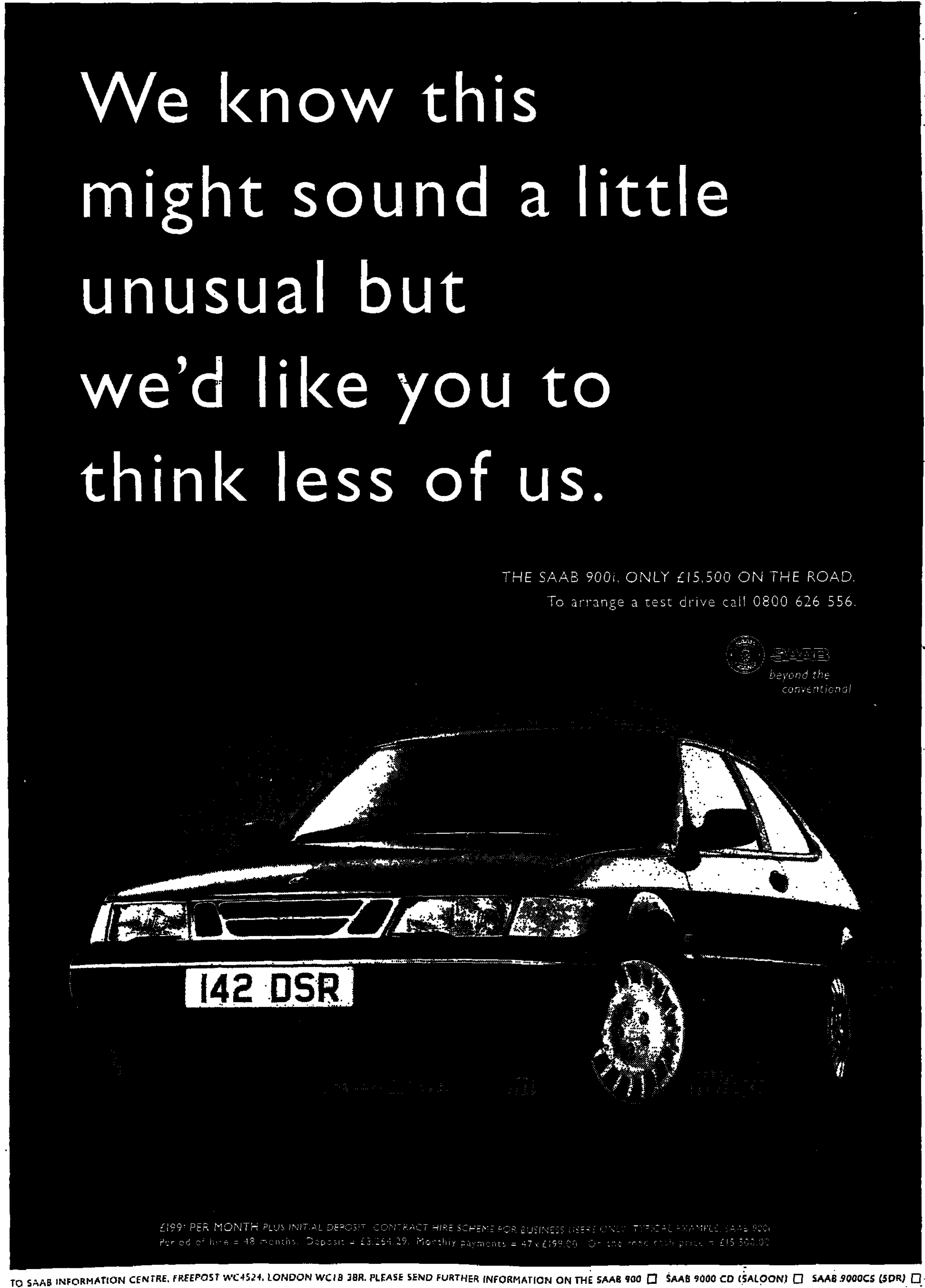
Cardiff Crown Court was told that the youth, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had twice the legal limit of alcohol in his blood. He rounded a corner on the wrong side of the road before mounting the pavement and hitting the girl, who was playing with her friend Sean Rogers, 14, outside her home in Morganstown, near Cardiff.

Mr Thomas told the court: "The car collided with both children and Teleri was thrown high into the air by the impact. She landed on the road and the Nova drove over her and trapped her beneath it." Sean had leg and pelvis injuries.

After the case Teleri's father, Simon Adams, criticised the length of the sentence: "He will serve only four of those six years but Teleri has been taken from us forever. It's an absolute disgrace."

The teenager, from Cardiff, admitted causing death by dangerous driving, aggravated vehicle-taking and driving while disqualified. His lawyer, Stephen Hopkins, told the court: "He showed immediate remorse and says he will never drive again. He comes from a respectable family who will do all they can to help him."

Sentencing the youth to six years in a young offenders' institution, Judge Michael Gibbon, QC, said: "This is a sad and unfortunate tragedy. It has ruined many lives and I extend my sympathy to both families."



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MICHAEL POWELL

The first Royal Observatory at Greenwich was set up in 1675 by Charles II. Now it may revert to its original title

Closing eye on the sky will save £2m a year

Observatory decision is logical end to 15-year debate, reports **Nigel Hawkes**

THE closure of the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Cambridge, announced yesterday by John Battle, the Science Minister, marks the end of 15 years of argument and indecision.

Up to 100 people will lose their jobs when the work of supporting British telescopes is concentrated at the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh. The savings — £2.4 million a year over the next four years, and at least £4 million a year thereafter — will be used to support research in astronomy at British universities.

Despite its name, the institution being closed is neither an observatory nor is it at Greenwich. It is a modern office building, completed seven years ago, which houses 115 staff. The telescopes they use are in Las Palmas in the Canary Islands, Hawaii, and Australia.

The RGO started its life at Greenwich, but polluted skies dictated a move, first to Herstmonceux in Sussex and then, in 1990, to Cambridge. But the RGO had a counterpart in Scotland, the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, where about 100 staff work, and since 1972 there have been proposals to save money by merging the two organisations.

The Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council says that the case for concentrating on one site is very strong, and has been recommended by every review. Until now the decision has been dodged. "The case for withdrawing support from the RGO is compelling, the logic is overwhelming, and the result will be better science, better astronomy" says Peter Williams, chairman of PPARC.

Starwatchers working at Greenwich under the first Astronomer Royal mapped the sky to aid navigation

Both he and Professor Ken Pounds, its chief executive, said that they greatly regretted the need for redundancies but without change, PPARC would not be able to go on supporting 31 university groups with grants for astronomy. But he explained that PPARC cannot actually close the RGO, because of its royal title. The royal connection meant PPARC had to gain the approval of the Science Minister John Battle to its plans. In a written parliamentary answer yesterday, the minister said that combining the work of Greenwich and Edinburgh in a new UK Astronomy Technology Centre in Edinburgh would better reflect the fact that the two Royal Observatories were now observatories in name only.

Neil Parker, deputy director of the RGO, said that the decision was "disappointing, to say the least". He said that the RGO had better technology, was better suited to future needs for astronomy, and had a better record than Edinburgh.

It is quite possible that the title of RGO will now be bestowed elsewhere, perhaps back to the original Greenwich Observatory — now known as the Old Royal Observatory — where it started more than 300 years ago. The observatory was founded in 1675, on the orders of Charles II. Its job, and that of John Flamsteed, the first Astronomer Royal, was to map the heavens to help ships navigate.

The building was designed by Sir Christopher Wren, and built at a cost of £520 9s 1d, defrayed by selling off 690 barrels of Royal gunpowder. In the 19th century the buildings were adapted by the seventh Astronomer Royal, Sir George Airy. It played a major role in the development of timekeeping and navigation, its place in history ensured by the agreement in 1884 that the zero meridian of longitude should be the Greenwich Meridian.

AIRBAGS ENSURE PATHFINDER HAS A CUSHIONED LANDING

Scientists' bouncing baby safe on Mars

By Nigel Hawkes

MARS Pathfinder used ingenious but untried techniques for landing on the red planet. When it hit the Martian surface, it was designed to bounce several times, wrapped in airbags to break its fall.

The descent was timed to last for 4½ minutes but was to be followed by hours of waiting before scientists could confirm that it had landed safely. Pathfinder hit Mars's thin atmosphere at 16,600mph. Two minutes before landing, a huge parachute was deployed and 20 seconds later the heat shield was jettisoned.

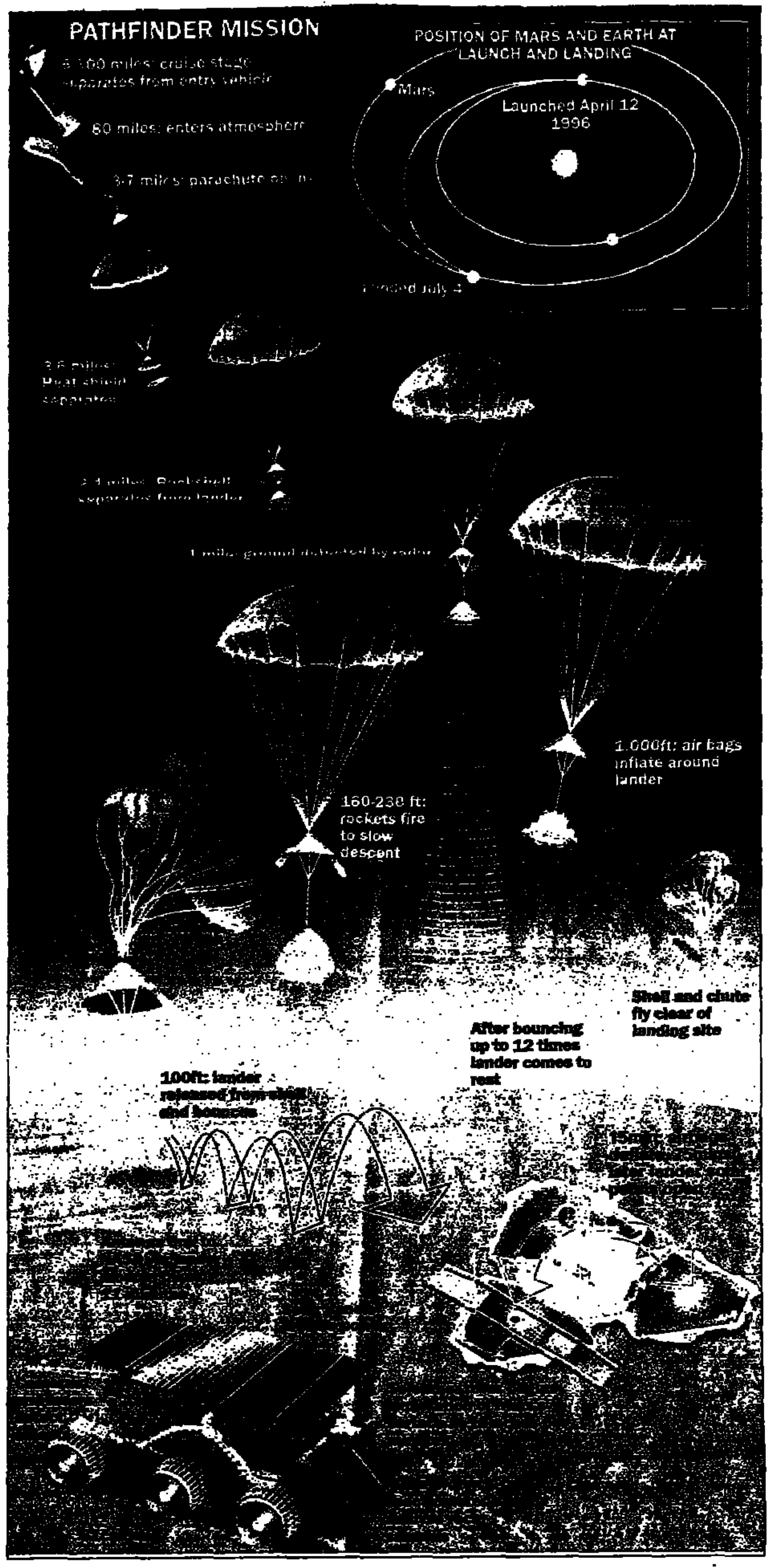
As the spacecraft slowed, four protective airbags, each about 19ft across, were due to inflate, turning the spacecraft into a bunch of balloons. Four retro-rockets fired for a couple of seconds to bring Pathfinder to a virtual halt.

The spacecraft fell the last few feet to the surface, protected by the airbags. Their role complete, the airbags deflated and retracted. In the final step, the spacecraft's petal-like sides opened to ensure that it was the right way up, allowing the rover vehicle to trundle out of its hold and begin exploring.

The rover, called Sojourner, is the first wheeled vehicle to move on the Martian surface, driven remotely by mission controllers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

The landing section will send back three-dimensional images of the Martian surface, so that the controllers will be able to guide Sojourner across the surface at only one or two inches per second.

The vehicle will take colour pictures to identify the rock and soil minerals it encounters. Pathfinder will send back pictures and data on the atmosphere and weather.


PATHFINDER MISSION
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80 miles: enters atmosphere
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1 mile: ground detected by radar
1,000ft: air bags inflate around lander
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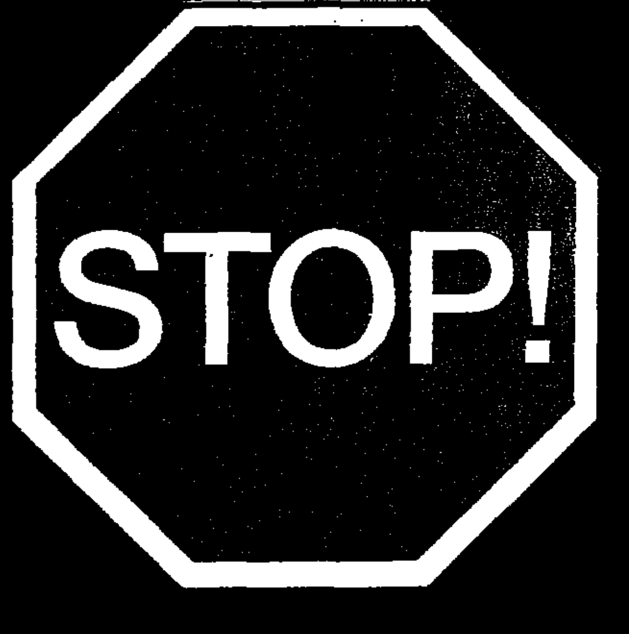

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Probation staff powerless to hold paedophile

By Daniel McGrory

PROBATION officers admitted last night that they are powerless to detain a convicted paedophile who threatened to attack again after he was found after a 24-hour hunt by police.

Graham Seddon, 43, who has said he will attack the first child he finds, moved to south *London after neighbours in* Liverpool hounded him out of the bail hostel where he had been staying.

Seddon, also known as Graham Stridgeon, had been missing from his temporary accommodation in Brixton. He gave himself up to probation staff after police found him trying to draw his benefit *at a* DSS *office* in central London.

Probation officers said last *night that they* had moved him out of the capital but were having difficulty finding a hostel willing to take him after the public threats to attack again. "We cannot legally hold on to him and now he is the subject of controversy again nowhere wants responsibility for him," a source for the Probation Service said.

"For the moment he is with us voluntarily but if he wants to go off on his own we nor the police can stop *him unless* he commits another offence."

Seddon threatened to rape *another child immediately* after his release from prison in March after serving six years of a ten-year sentence for assaulting a girl aged ten.

He was detained by police weeks later when he was seen stalking children in Liverpool, carrying a teddy bear, toys and colouring pencils.

Seddon has agreed to meet *Inner London probation staff*, who refused to say last night where they were trying to find him accommodation. "*He* felt his notoriety meant he could not stay in London and his desire is that no one knows where he goes next," the probation source said.

Seddon has openly confessed to his probation officers that because of his uncontrollable sexual urges he still regards himself as a danger.

A psychiatrist in Lancashire who examined Seddon ruled that his condition was not *medically treatable and did* not fit the criteria for admission to a hospital.

A *senior figure in the* Greater Manchester probabtion service who dealt with Seddon's case said: "As a parent I can understand the public disquiet about this man being on the loose. He believes he is a danger to children but as the law stands there is nothing the Probation Service can do about forcibly detaining him. *There needs to be a further* change in law so that such sex offenders can be given a *supervision* order on a prolonged basis so that we can both monitor him and impose some control on his whereabouts."

Seddon will not be included on the Home Office register of paedophiles to be introduced in the autumn as he has served his prison sentence. *Under legislation* introduced by the previous government, convicted sex offenders will *need to register their address* when they leave jail.

"This idea needs to be extended to include the likes of Seddon," the probation source said.

The mother who took out an injunction this week against Seddon to prevent him contacting her children was furious *when* told he had absconded. Lorraine Southern, a mother of three, who *campaigns on behalf of a* group called People Power said: "I am frightened because somebody's child is going to come to harm with this man on the loose."

Greater Manchester probation service said yesterday: "We and other agencies put a great deal of effort in making suitable arrangements for this man, including finding him accommodation and offering *other support. We are* very disappointed he has chosen not to take up these services. However, he is under no statutory supervision and as the law stands, he is free to make his own choices."

NEWS TEAM MANCHESTER

Graham Seddon, has threatened to attack the first child that he finds

Judge orders magazine to return lottery pay documents

By Carol Midgley, *Media Correspondent*

A HIGH COURT judge yesterday ordered a magazine editor to hand back leaked documents which revealed the "fat cat" bonuses of Camelot directors and provoked a national outcry.

Marketing Week carried an article in May which disclosed *that some directors* had received increases and bonuses of up to 90 per cent, prompting *the intervention of the Prime* Minister and Chris Smith, the Heritage Secretary. Camelot, the National Lottery operator, took legal action against the magazine and began an im*mediate* inquiry, employing security staff to interview employees to *identify* the "highly-placed" mole.

Mr Justice Maurice Kay *ordered the return of the draft* papers "in the interests of justice" after Camelot lawyers argued the company needed them to pinpoint the culprit. He said that an employee had acted in breach of contractual duties and the accounts were stolen. Camelot had a substantial interest in protecting its integrity and the source had *leaked the information* "unlawfully and in all probability criminally".

The judge said journalistic sources were now protected by law unless disclosure was necessary in the interests of justice or national security. In his judgment he said: "I am satisfied that it is necessary here, in the interests of justice, *to override the high public* importance accorded to the protection of sources.

"The publication of the article in *Marketing Week* led to considerable criticism of the plaintiff and its directors." He said it was well known that the article "*incurred the wrath of* the Government". Camelot was *forced to hold meetings* with the Heritage Secretary "amid a blaze of unwelcome publicity" which resulted in the directors agreeing to give some of their October bonuses to charity.

Peter Murphy, financial director of Camelot, had told the court that an internal inquiry had failed to find the source *but it was known to* be a person working at their offices.

He said: "*Until the culprit is* identified and removed, suspicions will impede effective management."

Stuart Smith, editor of *Marketing Week*, yesterday said he would appeal against the decision because the case was *important to press* freedom.

"We will exhaust all the legal remedies," he said. "Camelot can not even be certain that the return of these documents would identify the mole. We shall be protecting what is a very valuable source. This was a case with significant implications for press freedom. It pitted corporate *privilege against the confidentiality* of journalistic sources and unfortunately corporate privilege has won the legal skirmish.

"But it is only a skirmish. *Marketing Week* fully intends to win the battle. The documents will not be released to Camelot as we are going to appeal against this *judgment*."

A Camelot spokeswoman said: "We fully support the freedom of the press but this was not an issue here. This was a highly sensitive document which was leaked and it is important to us for internal *security reasons*."

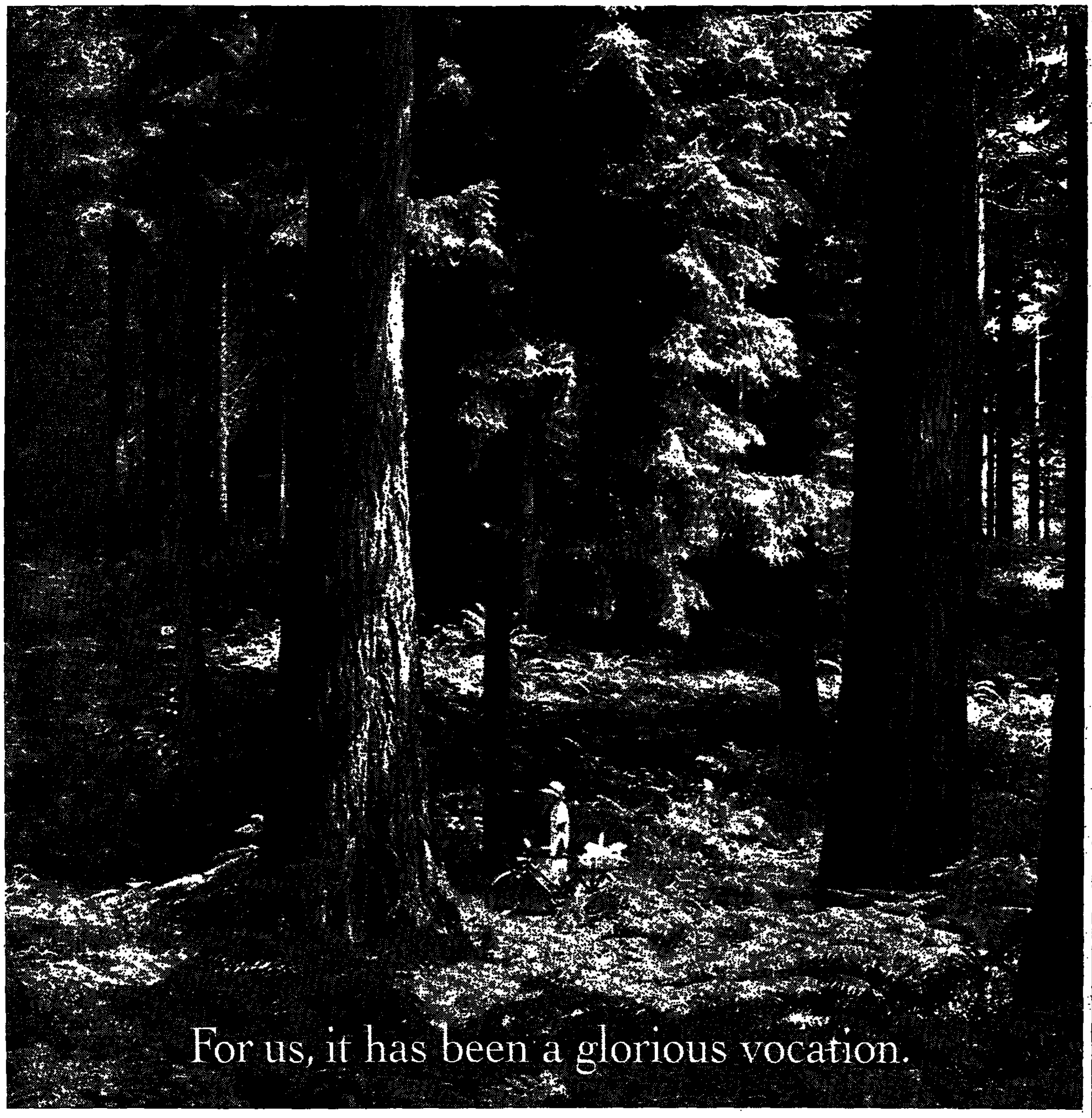
Chemists curb sale of vitamin

By Ian Murray, *Medical Correspondent*

HIGH-DOSE vitamin B6 tablets are being taken off chemists' shelves and new legislation will control levels of it in dietary supplements as a result of advice from the independent Food Advisory Committee that guides the Government on food safety.

The committee has found that taken at high levels over a prolonged period the vitamin may cause nerve damage leading to symptoms such as pins and needles, numbness and clumsiness. Jeff Rooker, the Food Safety *Minister*, decided to issue a warning about taking too much of it on the advice of the committee. The Royal Pharmaceutical Society has told the 12,500 chemists shops in Britain not to sell it without first warning customers of possible side effects.

"Vitamin B6 is an essential component of people's diets, but, like many things, too much can be harmful," Mr Rooker said.



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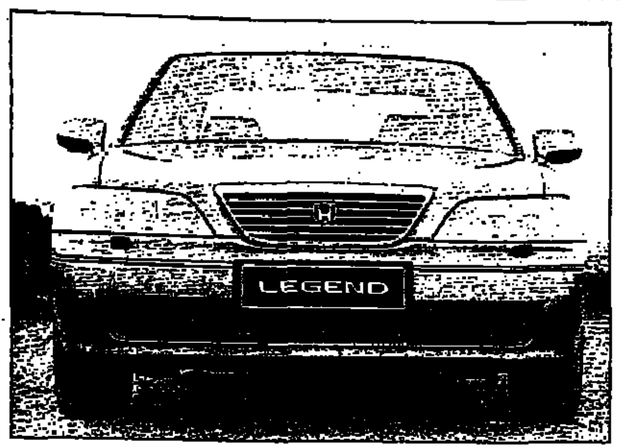
Honda's Legend; a fine car with no great reputation

Unknown Legend

■ THE HONDA Legend's low, almost invisible profile, does such a thoroughly good car a disservice, *writes Vaughan Freeman.*

The 3.2-litre V6 from 1991 is under-rated, and the newer 3.5-litre model from 1996 suffered a lack of publicity *reports CAP Black Book.*

The Legend has always had difficulties in the UK establishing itself an image, let alone any status.

The Legend is worth considering as executive transport because it very quiet, hugely comfortable, has high equipment levels and total reliability and superb build.

Best buy is an early coupé, and expect to pay £14,500 to £15,000 for a 1992 K-reg model, which is not bad for a car that cost almost twice that much when brand new.

FORECOURT

■ FORD'S Sierra Cosworth is probably the cheapest 150mph car on sale.

Best buy is the 1991 H-reg or 1992 G-reg Cosworth Sapphire, which should sell at anything up to £11,000 with low to average milage.

All Cosworths should though come with a public health and finance warning. Make sure any Cosworth you are considering comes with a full service history, and scrutinise anything offered as proof of ownership with great care and caution, especially invoices and receipts.

The Cosworth is the car loved by thieves, and investing £30 or so in a computer history check on a Cosworth is money well spent.

People-mover that's a real car

ROADTEST

Most motorists seeking a seven-seater are drawn to the "people-mover" or multi-purpose vehicle, *writes Alan Copps.* These cars have been the subject of such a publicity blitz that you might be forgiven for thinking there was no alternative if you need seven seats.

But there is, and if, like me, you'd rather drive in a car than on a platform, it's an ideal solution: the seven-seater estate. There are not many on the market, but the Peugeot 406 Family Estate must have a strong claim to being the best — it is after all based on a car acknowledged as the leader in its class.

The snag with most people-movers is the trade-off between the number of passengers and the amount of luggage space. With a full load in most such vehicles, luggage space is at a premium. If you're carrying fewer than seven passengers it can be increased by means of taking out two or three seats completely. But this poses two further problems, the removal of seats is often a cumbersome and, for all but superfit or superstrong people, a taxing procedure. Then once you've got the seats out you've got to store them somewhere, which for anyone without a garage can be an even greater hurdle.

I have a theory that most people movers are bought not by parents but by children. They love these vehicles because of the high seating position. Some drivers might also find the extra view over traffic appealing. But while the best MPVs are genuinely versatile vehicles, the worst are little short of vans with windows, and I'd rather drive a car anyday.

The great virtue of the 406 Family Estate is the way that it squares that circle; not only is it a car renowned for its performance, handling and level of comfort, but if you want it to be, it becomes with a minimum of effort a seven-seater with at least as much luggage space remaining as you can find in most MPVs.

As a normal five-seater, there is a generous load space. If you want seven seats, all you have to do is pull up two cleverly constructed rear-facing seats, complete with seat belts, which fold out of the load-area floor. Although at first sight the extra seats with their tubular construction look a little spartan, for children they proved perfectly comfortable even when stuck for an hour in a west London traffic jam. The fact that they face rearwards seemed to appeal to the independent urges of the older children.

What this design acknowledges is that people like me who want cars with seven seats only want to use all seven seats on comparatively few occasions. To have such versatility without the necessity for humping seats around is a real asset.

But it's far from being the only asset. In what is arguably the most competitive section of the car market, the Peugeot 406 has established an enviable reputation as "a driver's car". Allied to the striking good looks of the 406 range, a wide choice of engines and excellent economy, the Family Estate adds up to a very appealing package.

Family Estate enjoys good looks and a reputation as a driver's car

PEUGEOT 406 ESTATE

Engines: 1.8, 2.0, 2-litre turbo or 3-litre V6 petrol. 1.9 and 2.1-litre turbo-diesel.
Performance: (1.8-litre petrol) max speed 115mph, 0-62mph in 11.4 seconds.
Economy: (1.8-litre petrol) Urban cycle 22.7mpg, extra-urban 40.3mpg, combined cycle 31.4mpg.
Equipment: (1.8L) Driver and passenger airbags, keypad immobiliser, remote locking, four-speaker RDS radio cassette.
Price: from £15,440 on the road.

USED CAR BRIEF

TOYOTA CARINA
The Carina, launched in 1988, became the Carina E four years later as production of the new-look version began in Britain. Available as a four-door saloon, five-door hatch, and estate, the Carina engine range includes 1.6, 1.8 and 2-litre petrols as well as 2-litre diesel and turbo diesels. Changes in 1995 saw the introduction of the "lean burn" engines, made in Wales, which offer exceptional fuel economy.

✓ **GOOD NEWS:** Fuel figures around 40mpg are par for the course and the Carina is on average 10per cent more economical than rivals. Plenty of legroom front and rear, as well as generous head room make long trips less of a chore. A 3-year/[illegible]0,000 mile warranty is testament to Toyota's confidence in the car, underlined by galvanised body to deter rust.

BAD NEWS: The engines, especially the 1.6-litre, can get noisy when pressed for performance, and the clutch action can seem heavy. Replacement parts relatively pricey, and insurance reflects this with higher premiums. Suffers badly from a lack of image. Body roll in corners a common complaint.

LOOK FOR: From late 1994 all cars got a driver side airbag as standard. For those especially concerned with fuel economy and who do the high mileage to benefit, the 2-litre diesel is worth considering, if a bit noisy. Early XI and XLi give good value.

AVOID: Strangely, while a direct competitor to the Mondeo, Vectra and Peugeot 405/406, the Carina does not spring instantly to mind as a contender, even though there are precious few reasons to avoid this car.

SAFETY: The Carina and Carina Estate are centre-stage in the upper-medium car rankings according to the Department of Transport's league tables, above the old-shape Cavalier and Sierra alongside the Renault 21 and VW Passat, but behind the Honda Accord, Ford Mondeo and Mercedes 190.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1994 1.6-litre Carina E GLi costs a 55-year-old professional, male or female, with full no claims bonus, living in Winchester, £186 a year fully comprehensive. A 22-year-old male living in south London, with one year no claims, pays £783, and a similar female pays £677.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (Prices supplied by Partsmatix 01932 [illegible]823): Clutch assembly £1[illegible]; exhaust £164; rear damper £[illegible]; radiator £203; alternator £3[illegible]; starter motor £212; front brake pads (axle set) £62.

PRICES: Expect to pay £2,500-£5,000 for a pre-1992 Carina; £5,250 for a 1993 K-reg Carina E 1.6 Xi four-door; £5,850 for a 1992 J-reg 2-litre Carina E five-door; £6,500 for a 1992 J-reg Carina E 2.0 GTi four-door; £9,300 for a 1994 L-reg Carina 2.0 GTi five-door and £10,500 for a 1996 N-reg Carina E 1.8 GS five-door.

OVERALL: An exceptionally capable saloon, roomier and more reliable than most, that offers above average competence. Unfortunately the Carina does not dazzle. It hides its light so deeply under the bushel that it needs to be sought out. The Carina will reward those who find it with trustworthy and long-lasting motoring.

Ferodo's bike-record braker

■ THE COMPANY that claims the title of "world's first brake manufacturer" is celebrating its centenary this year by sponsoring an attempt on the British land-speed record for a motorcycle.

Ferodo, which made the first brake blocks for early cars and was producing brakes for London Underground trains by 1907, is backing an attempt on the record by pupils of Beauchamps School in Essex which will take place at Elvington airfield in Yorkshire on the July 19. The record currently stands at 209mph. The pupils' machine is based around a tuned Suzuki GSX1100 engine.

The name Ferodo was invented by founder Herbert Frood, and its involvement with motorsport dates back to 1926. It has won more than 330 Formula One grand prix.

The Ferodo trophy presented annually for outstanding achievement in motorport is one of the most sought-after prizes. First won by Jaguar in 1953, last year it was awarded to Damon Hill.

1897 1997 FERODO THE FIRST NAME IN BRAKES

Used-car buyers beware

SPARE PARTS

■ WITH THE rush for R-registration cars from August 1 expected to release a flood of trade-ins on to the second-hand market, buyers of used cars are being advised to protect their vehicles from theft.

Buyers of used models may need to take action to benefit from security measures that are already installed, says Retainagroup, which runs the National Vehicle Security Register backed by ten leading makers and more than 1,000 motor dealers. The NVSR system means that the car's security code and Retainagroup's 24-hour checkline number is permanently etched on to the window. Ownership details are kept on a secure database.

This acts as a deterrent for thieves and as a means of verifying ownership, but anyone buying such a car needs to inform Retainagroup to maintain this protection. Owners can register their vehicles for a one-off fee of £11 by calling the company on 0181-871 1333. "More than half a million vehicles are stolen in the UK every year and 60 per cent of these are never recovered," says Wendy Rowe, managing director of Retainagroup.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

BETRAYAL

What was really on Chris Patten's mind on the eve of the handover of Hong Kong to Beijing? No longer governor, he can speak his mind at last about Britain's treatment of the colony's people. Tomorrow he tells Jonathan Dimbleby what he really thinks

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Conan Doyle's town detects its fortune

Daniel McGrory on the case of the tourism chiefs who said better late than never

A SUSSEX town with ambitions to be a big tourist attraction will double its population this weekend as 25,000 visitors descend to celebrate the creator of Sherlock Holmes.

The great detective might have been puzzled at why Crowborough waited so long to cash in on its connections with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who lived there during his last 23 years.

Julian Roup, who conceived the idea of the world's only annual Sherlock Holmes festival, said: "Interest in England's greatest sleuth just gets bigger every year and we are sitting on a literary brand name worth millions that is worshipped the world over — and until recently have done nothing about it. For years Baker Street has cashed in and its links are purely fictitious. We are sitting on the real thing."

The inaugural festival last summer made a modest profit, which encouraged this month's more ambitious effort by the organisers, who foresee the town in East Sussex becoming one of this country's main tourist haunts.

Town traders are aware of the potential rewards, and most shops in the high street are displaying Holmes memorabilia. There is to be a Hound of the Baskervilles dog show where both owner and beast have to pose as a character from the novels. Parties of Japanese tourists will be encouraged to don deerstalker hats and walk the Beacon golf course where Conan Doyle was once captain. He was by his own admission such a disastrous player that he regarded golf simply as an excuse to stroll his beloved Sussex Downs.

Leading article....................21

Holmes, however, was touchy about country life. "It is my belief, Watson, founded upon my experience, that the lowest and vilest alleys of London do not present a more dreadful record of sin than does the smiling and beautiful countryside," he said in *Copper Beeches*.

Politically correct American visitors will be invited to forget their usual antipathy to smoking and suck on pipes while watching Conan Doyle's old cricket club play a match in period dress between a Holmes XI and the Dastardly Moriartys. Daytrippers can feast on the locally made Sherlock sausage, washed down by a Sherlock Holmes wine that will be uncorked for the first time today.

Not all the local people, however, share this enthusiasm for Holmesmania. Christina Brock, who owns a cobbler's shop where Conan Doyle was a customer, said: "Some shops refuse to advertise the festival and won't decorate their windows, nor dress in Victorian costume. This is meant to put us on the map and boost trade but there are some spoilsports."

Brian Newbury, the mayor, is embarrassed that the town council refused to fund the festival because of what he calls "a private feud". "I think it is a fabulous idea and anything that gets Crowborough noticed must be good for everyone here. Some fear it will ruin the character of the town if we have loads of hotels and fast-food joints spring up."

CHRIS HARRIS

Robert Thorpe, owner of a menswear shop in Crowborough, entering into the spirit in Sherlock Holmes garb

The festival organisers are optimistic. Apart from attracting many sponsors the town has been given £5,000 of lottery money to assess its tourist potential. Mr Roup, a public relations consultant who lives in the town, said: "We are not after the bucket-and-spade package tours but tapping into the fast-growing literary tours market."

As well Conan Doyle's house at Windlesham Manor, which is now a retirement home, his friend Rudyard Kipling lived at nearby Burwash, Virginia Woolf at Rodmell, the Bloomsbury Group at Charleston, and Winnie the Pooh country is just to the north. "There are 400 Sherlock Holmes societies around the world so if we get a fraction of them it's a lot of money," Mr Roup said.

American academics are booked to attend the Holmes festival and there is a party of Japanese Holmesians returning this year led by Masamichi Higurashi, who is Conan Doyle's translator in Japan. "I enjoyed the first festival so much that I have brought some friends this time and I am sure many more Japanese will come," he said. Mr Higurashi has already given £700 to the town's £20,000 appeal for a bronze statue of Conan Doyle.

The guidebooks boast that the author moved to Crowborough from Surrey in 1907 when he married his second wife, Jean Leckie, whose family lived next door to what was then called Little Windlesham. He added a billiards room and rededicated the house as the manor.

Mr Roup is unrepentant about Crowborough's blatant merchandising, with everything from tea towels to Sherlock dolls on sale. "We should have Sherlock rock if it brings in visitors and revenue." Local traders agree. Elizabeth Streatfield, who has a home-made 6ft statue in her shop window, said: "Anything that generates interest in our town must be brilliant."

Tony Charlton, the festival's chairman and manager of the local supermarket, said: "It will take a few years to build up our reputation as a holiday magnet. But who knows? We could have the Sherlock Holmes hotel built soon and be catering for more visitors than Baker Street."

Conan Doyle: spent 23 years in Sussex

RSC theatre 'in need of repair'

By Robin Young

THE Royal Shakespeare Company is to apply for lottery funds to refit and improve its theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon. The theatre, opened in 1932, is in urgent need of repair.

One recent performance was interrupted when rain leaked on to the stage and into the dressing rooms during a thunderstorm.

Poor acoustics and restricted sightlines impair the performances in the balcony, while pressure on public spaces at the theatre has increased "almost to breaking point", according to the company.

Backstage dressing rooms are cramped, the stage machinery is outdated and many working areas are close to breaking health and safety regulations. Among the improvements recommended as a result of a planning study carried out last year are adaptation of the main auditorium to improve sightlines from the balcony and the back of the theatre, larger bars and foyers, more lavatories and better access for the disabled.

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BRITISH AIRWAYS

Sex abuse fears prompt rethink by Methodists

Ruth Gledhill on women's ordeal during the 'peace'

THE Methodist Church is to consider changing its services to prevent sexual harassment during the "peace", when worshippers are urged to hug, kiss or shake hands.

Women have been driven from church, never to return, because of overfamiliarity during the peace, the Methodist Conference meeting in Westminster was told yesterday. It was claimed that women in the Methodist Church were sometimes more sexually vulnerable than in the police force.

The Church is to set up a task force to monitor help for the victims of such abuse, and has agreed a sexual harassment policy based on that used by London Underground. There may also be a helpline for victims of abuse.

Sexual abuse is not thought to be worse in the 1.2 million-strong Methodist Church than in any other church organisation. The Methodists are, however, the first to study the subject in such depth.

A church report found examples of sexual harassment where the minister reponsible escaped disciplinary action by resigning. The report urged tough new measures to ensure good behaviour.

Members of the conference stood for a minute's silence as a mark of sorrow and repentance. The Rev Jane Cook, a former police officer from Darlington, told them how becoming ordained in the Methodist Church made her aware of sexual harassment "far more insidious" than she had encountered in the police. "I spent some of 1983 sitting in a wood acting as a police decoy in order to arrest a very serious sexual offender. I was confident that I could handle him when he appeared and that back-up and support were close to hand. My family said I was a sitting-duck. But it was only when I was accepted to train as a Methodist minister that I discovered what it really meant to be a sitting-duck.

"In my beloved Methodist Church I have felt absolute terror and fear and sheer astonishment, too. And I have not been at times aware of having any back-up to turn to for help. Myself and many others felt and were extremely vulnerable."

The Rev Alan Cox, of East Anglia, said: "It is of deep concern to some worshippers that the peace could send out the wrong signals in the context of worship.

"I was told of an incident in one of our churches where members of the congregation were encouraged to hug and kiss eight people before they left. I believe such practices go beyond what the report describes as demonstrations of fellowship. I want to retain opportunities to demonstrate fellowship within the body of Christ but what I do not want to happen is for there to be times when opportunities are given for harassment or hurt to take place."

One woman, who did not give her name, said she had grown up in a traditional English family where there was little physical contact. "On numerous occasions I have found myself trapped in religious services where one is expected to kiss and hug total strangers. My immediate reaction is to push them away. But you have to endure it with gritted teeth."

The Church studied many policies before deciding that London Underground's came closest to its aims. "It is about what people have the right to expect and what the Church has a duty to provide," a spokeswoman said.

At Your Service
Weekend, page 11

ANDRE CAMARA

Christina le Moignan yesterday: she would be Britain's first woman bishop

Appeals for more bishops

CALLS for the introduction of bishops were resisted yesterday by the Methodist Conference, but members agreed to examine the concept of episcopal leadership.

Methodist bishops are appointed in some countries, but in Britain they are called district chairmen. Leslie Griffiths, a past president of the conference, said: "District chairman does not even begin to describe the work done by the holder of that title."

Such a change would make Christina le Moignan, Birmingham district chairman, Britain's first woman bishop. She opposes the idea: "The word 'bishop' conveys an Anglican or Roman Catholic model that I do not think is true to Methodism."

Credo

Hymns of the past strike a modern chord

Ian Bradley

IT IS significant that the last piece of music played by the British massed bands before the lowering of the Union Flag in Hong Kong should have been a Victorian hymn.

Far more than the earlier renditions of Lloyd Webber's *Memories* and Noel Coward's *I'll See You Again*, it was the strains of *The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended* that brought a lump to the throat of those watching Monday's handover ceremony and summed up the emotional ending of Empire.

Complex and ambiguous feelings that could not be expressed in speeches and parades were given voice in the strains of this familiar hymn. Conceived in 1870 by John Ellerton as he walked home from taking an evening class for the railway workers in his Crewe parish, *The day thou gavest* has unmistakeable imperial echoes, with its reminder that "the sun that bids us rest is waking our brethren 'neath the western sky". It is not surprising that it was chosen by Queen Victoria to be sung in every parish church to mark her diamond jubilee on June 20, 1897.

Hymns, and especially Victorian hymns, continue to give solemnity and dignity to great national occasions. Indeed, in our post-Christian society, it is the tribal chants of this supposedly defunct faith that constitute the nearest we have to a communal folk-song. Victorian favourites such as *Dear Lord and Father of mankind*, *Abide with me* and *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven* consistently top polls of favourite hymns and remain popular for weddings and funerals.

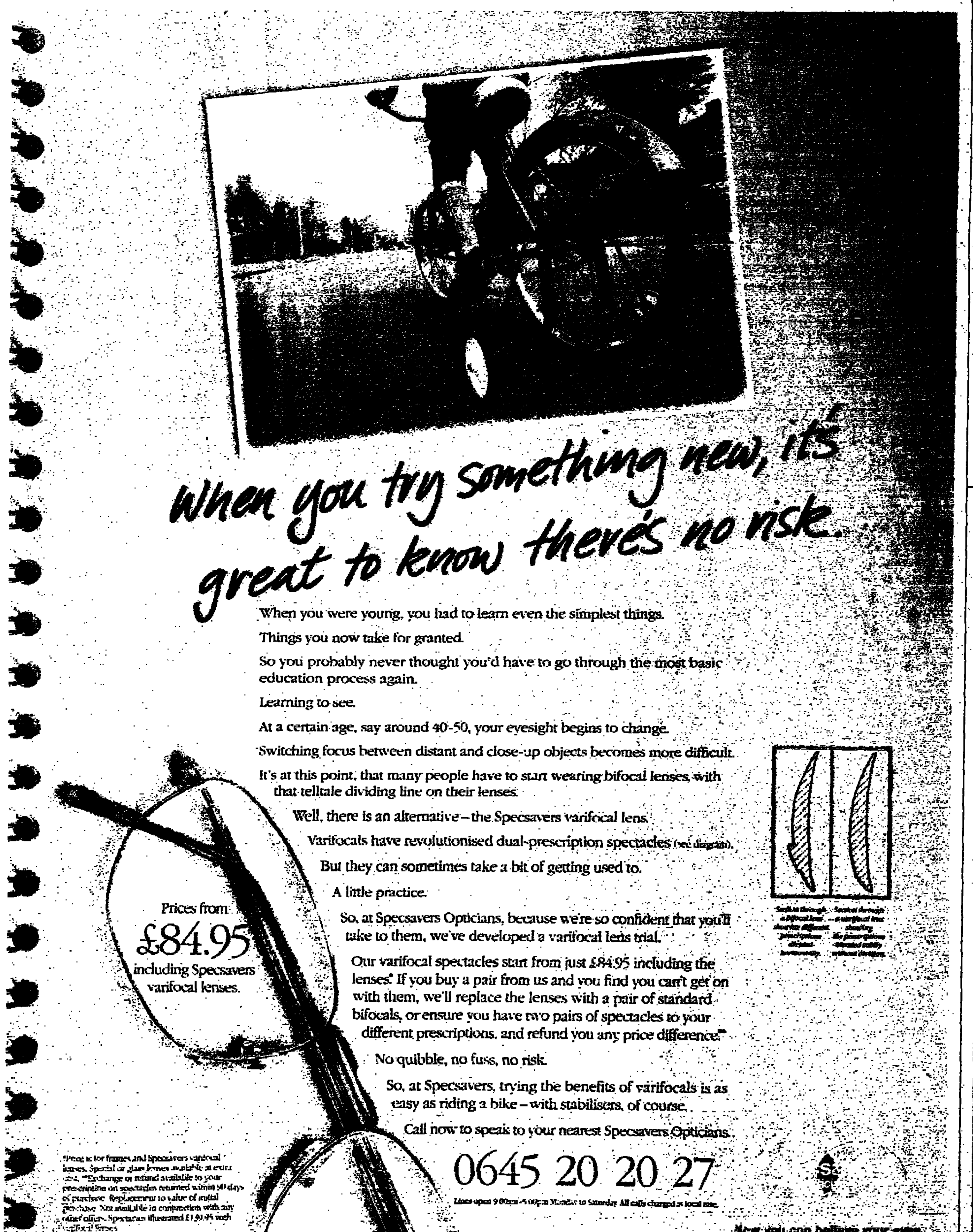
It is through hymns that most of us get our theology. Ask people what they remember from a church service and it is unlikely to be the prayers or the sermon. What sticks in the mind are the words and tunes of the hymns. We can thank the Victorians for this. They invented the hymn-book as we now know it, with each hymn given a particular tune, and made those lasting marriages — *O God, our help in ages past* to St Anne, *Eternal Father, strong to save*, to Melita and *Abide with me* to Eventide — which have helped to implant hymns so deeply into the British consciousness.

Singing those hymns today is not simply to indulge in imperialistic nostalgia, however. *The day thou gavest* warns us that unlike God's reign, "earth's proud empires pass away". That note of provisionality and reminder of the transitoriness of earthly things is what made it so appropriate for the Hong Kong handover ceremony.

Many Victorian hymns, far from being triumphalist and complacent, tackle difficult doctrines and sound a note of uncertainty. *Lead, kindly Light*, which regularly topped the Victorian hymnological hit-parade but is now a candidate for exclusion from the new Church of Scotland hymnbook, is one of the greatest poetic expressions of the theme of doubt-filled faith. John Henry Newman's anguished cry that "the night is dark, and I am far from home" struck a chord with agnostics such as Thomas Hardy and speaks to many in a similar state of confusion today.

Victorian hymns fit uneasily into the age of the soundbite, when image is all and content sounds little. They ooze subtlety and mystery and are packed with ambiguities and nuances while retaining an overarching sense of moral order and purpose. In our brutalised, upfront, post-modern culture, that is exactly why we need them so badly. Their poetry and profundity provides a spiritual depth and integrity missing from many contemporary worship songs.

☐ *The Rev Ian Bradley lectures in divinity at Aberdeen University. His book,* Abide With Me — the World of Victorian Hymns, *was published last month by SCM Press.*



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Hamilton's Ladies count cost of loyalty

Russell Jenkins discovers tremors of betrayal and bewilderment behind the solid façade of Tatton

MARTIN RICKETT

Members of Tatton Women's Organisation demonstrating support for Neil Hamilton and his wife Christine, far right, before the election. Now local stalwarts feel hurt

BEHIND substantial front doors in the Cheshire commuter-belt constituency of Tatton there was a small group of people, largely well-heeled and living in comfortable retirement, who were finding it difficult to face the world yesterday.

They were the ultra-loyalists, led by the Tatton Association chairman Alan Barnes and his ebullient wife Joan, who stuck by Neil Hamilton and pushed through his candidacy at the general election against vociferous opposition.

Their call on ancient loyalties in a constituency where the Conservative Party is the hub of social life followed protestations by the Hamiltons of the former MP's innocence, and lengthy private assurances that Sir Gordon Downey's report would exonerate him. The activists wanted to believe him. Sir Gordon's damning conclusions came as a heavy personal blow which has left them feeling hurt, bewildered and betrayed. They were wondering last night how they can face the social backlash over gin and tonics at bridge parties and fundraising lunches deep in the green belt of Knutsford, Alderley Edge and Wilmslow.

Patti Turner-Smith, chairman of the Tatton Women's Organisation, dubbed Hamilton's Ladies, was among those who had openly adored the MP who represented Tatton for 14 years. She said: "I don't know what to do. Everyone is going to say, 'I told you so'. I am just devastated by this."

Another of Hamilton's Ladies said plaintively: "He came to my house at Christmas and gave me a present. I asked him about all this and he spoke so well. I cannot comprehend what has happened. I never drink alone, but who will drink with me now?"

Mr Barnes, a retired businessman, has already fulfilled his promise to resign his post if Sir Gordon found against Mr Hamilton. Mrs Barnes, Mrs Turner-Smith, Pauline Breland, treasurer of the Tatton Women's Organisation and director of the fundraising Patrons' Club, and Jan Verney, the association's president, are under pressure to follow suit.

> “Everyone is going to say, 'I told you so'. I am just devastated”

The association, once a model for less active and well-supported associations, is in turmoil. The "rebels", led by Frank Keegan, the Alderley Edge branch treasurer, and Tony Martin, who resigned as association chairman before the election, have hailed the report as a vindication of their stand. They want the political spoils. Mr Martin, a Knutsford businessman who led a walkout at the pre-election adoption meeting, has called on Mr Hamilton to leave the association, not realising that he had never joined.

The rebels are unlikely to sweep all before them. They are, in the main, individuals without a sizeable powerbase within the constituency. Since the election there has been, according to one association insider, a "hell of a lot of backbiting", with furious letters from the branches demanding the resignations of Mr Barnes and the agent, Peter McDowell. However, public displays of bloodletting, controversy and conflict are not the Tatton way.

Insiders were suggesting last night that most members had accepted there could be no comeback for the Hamiltons in Tatton. Sir Gordon has ensured that this assumption will become fact. The seismic shift in opinion was indicated yesterday when Bert Grange, a Knutsford county councillor, executive committee member and a staunch Hamilton loyalist, said that the executive will be asking for Mr Hamilton to resign his membership. "He was very supportive of Neil and Christine and spoke up for them at an adoption meeting," one member said. "For Bert to do that is really something."

The real victims of the Hamiltons' political disgrace are the Hamilton Ladies, whose steadfast support kept his hopes alive. "They are the ladies who go to bridge parties," an association member said. "They are in their 60s and 70s, retired people who have time for that sort of life. They worshipped him. For them, he could do no wrong. I don't know what they must be thinking today." Members on the selection committee are looking to the future and are talking about making overtures to a "big hitter" such as Malcolm Rifkind, Michael Portillo or Chris Patten. Tatton, once the fifth safest Tory seat in England, remains a prize catch. Meanwhile Mr and Mrs Hamilton remain a brooding presence from their rambling yet elegant old rectory in Nether Alderley, on the edge of the constituency.

Most party stalwarts believe that they have no choice but to sell up and move away. However, their circumstances are complicated by Mrs Hamilton's elderly parents, who recently moved into the area to be close to their daughter. A straw poll in the *Manchester Evening News* suggested that most people in the Cheshire constituency believe he should go now with as much grace as he can muster.

Hague determined to get tough with rebels

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

TOUGHER powers to discipline Conservative MPs are to be introduced to prevent controversial figures such as Neil Hamilton heaping embarrassment on the party.

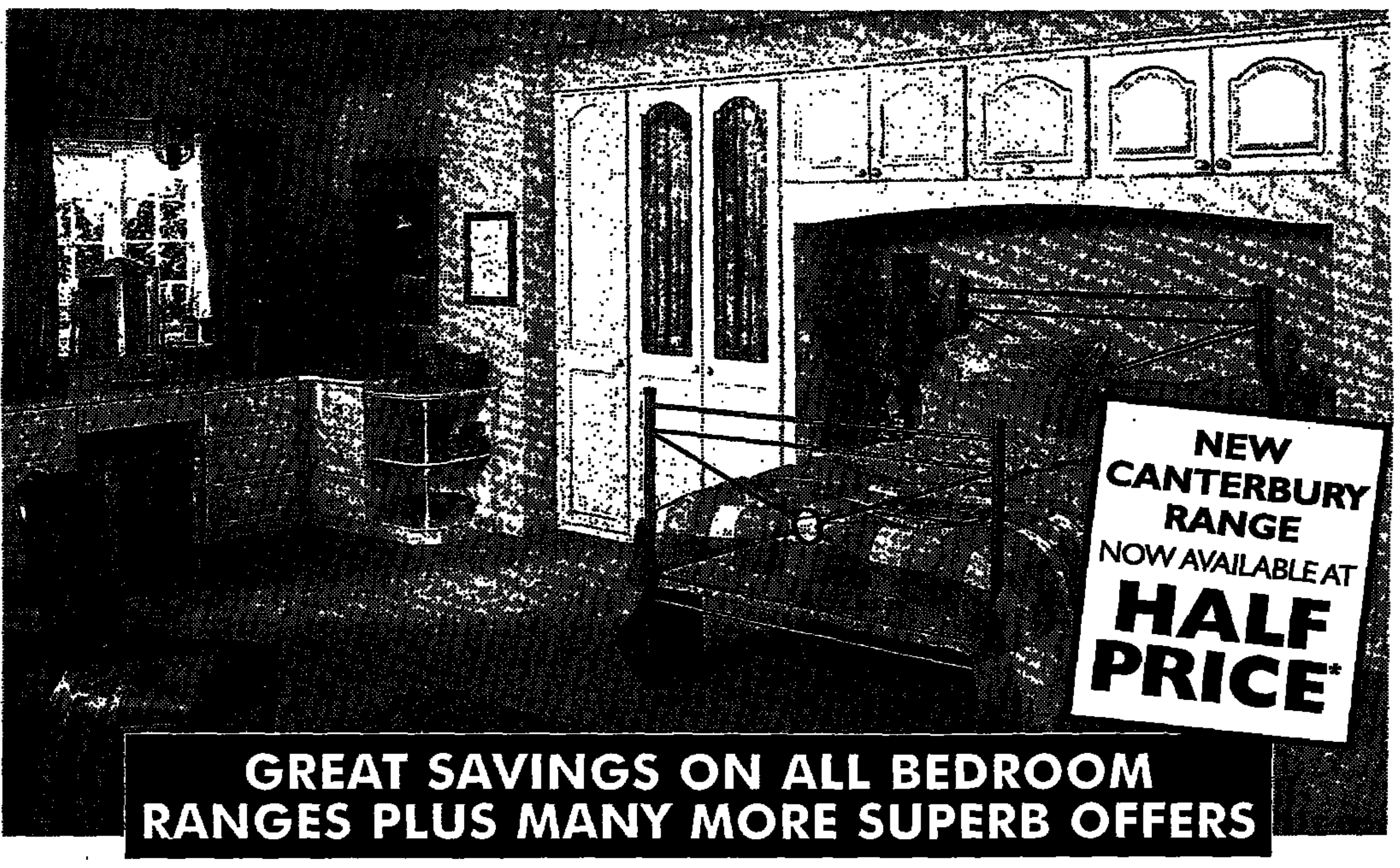
William Hague has told close aides working on a reorganisation of the party that he wants to ensure that the leadership is never again left powerless in the face of a Commons scandal. Mr Hague has let it be known that he will be "ruthlessly intolerant" of financial misconduct. He believes that the Hamilton affair has reinforced the case that he put during the leadership election for a "rapid and radical" reform of the party.

In return for party members being given a much greater say over policy and the choice of Conservative leader, the party centrally will take new powers over the selection of parliamentary candidates.

It was an open secret that John Major and Brian Mawhinney, then the party chairman, wanted Mr Hamilton to stand down as the candidate for Tatton before the election to spare the party further pain. But with the choice and future of candidates in the hands of the local associations they watched helpless as the local party stood by its man.

Mr Hamilton confirmed yesterday that he has never been a member of the Conservative Association, a fact that surprised his local party.

Mr Hague hopes that the reforms will lead to a unification of the party's different wings: the National Union (its voluntary arm), Conservative Central Office and the parliamentary party. If the party is a single entity, senior Tories believe, matters of discipline and selection will be more easily handled.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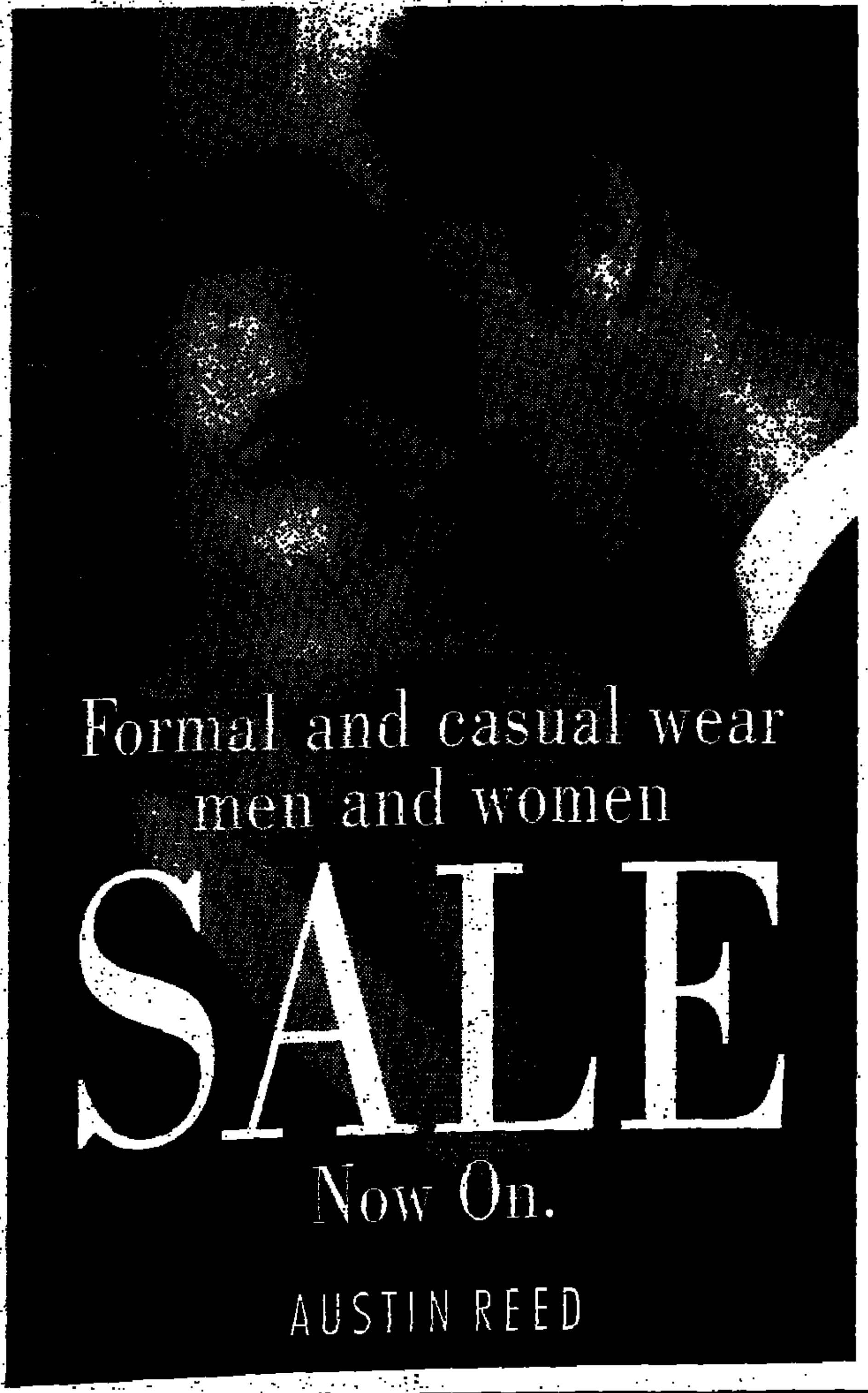
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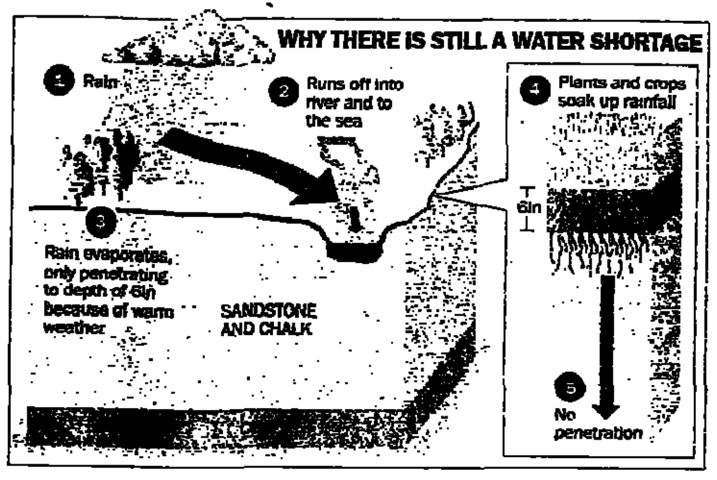
Wrong sort of rain fails to replenish supplies

By Nick Nuttall
Environment Correspondent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Despite the wettest June since 1860, the rain has failed to replenish underground water sources.

Pamela Taylor, chief executive of the Water Companies Association, which represents the smaller firms, said yesterday that 40 per cent of their supplies came from aquifers and boreholes hundreds of feet below ground.

"June has had a significant impact on demand with customers using 25 per cent less water than in June 1995. River and reservoir levels are in some areas now full. But this summer rain makes no difference to underground water sources," she said.

"These can only be topped up by winter rain because most of summer rain evaporates or is sucked away by plants like the bindweed in my garden," Ms Taylor said.

She said water companies were "keeping their fingers crossed" that further restrictions, such as hosepipe bans, would not be needed this summer. But she added: "We must have rain this winter to restock the water reservoirs underground ready for next summer."

In the long term, Britain needed better planning of homes and businesses to ensure that scant water resources were not overstretched by rising demands from new villages and settlements, the association said.

Ray Tennant, chairman of the association and a director at Mid Southern and South East water companies, said yesterday: "People want to know why all this rain has not solved the water resources problem. You could say that it is the wrong sort of rain, rather like Railtrack's leaves on the line problem."

Summer rainfall may be moistening the surface soils but, some six inches below, the soils remain completely dry. It means the rain hitting the ground is running off into rivers and out to sea. Summer temperatures also mean a great deal of water in the upper soils evaporates before it can penetrate down. Mr Tennant said that temperature would be the key to whether more restrictions were needed during the rest of the summer.

Water companies also say that several new reservoirs are needed. But their claims have received a lukewarm response from the Environment Agency and ministers. Critics say that the industry first needs to do more to reduce leaks, curb demand and educate customers to save water.

Mr Tennant disclosed that, instead of building new reservoirs, some companies were looking at expanding existing ones by increasing the size of dams and the embankments. He said the South East water company was looking at Ardingly reservoir in West Sussex and Arlington, near Eastbourne.

Such schemes would require planning permission but the applications were likely to be less controversial and time-consuming than those for new reservoirs. He said preliminary studies indicated that expansion of reservoirs might boost their capacity by up to a quarter.

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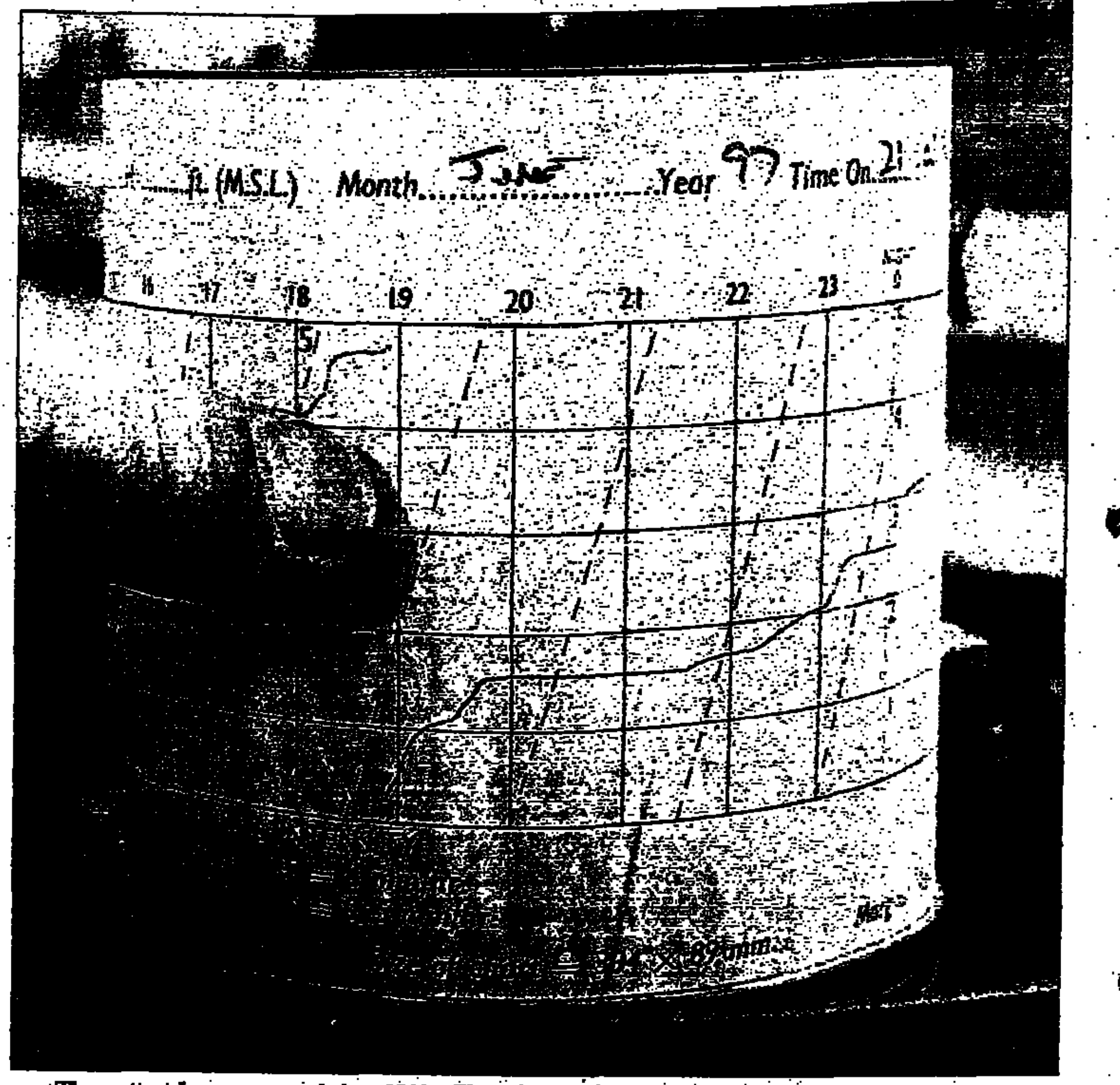
NACHELLE CROWTHER



The wettest June on record since 1860 will not have helped to prevent water shortages next year

Witness says woman knew lover had HIV

From Michael Theodoulou in Larnaca

LAWYERS defending the Cypriot fisherman accused of knowingly infecting a British divorcée with Aids finished their case yesterday with a surprise witness who said Janette Pink had admitted to him she knew her lover was HIV-positive.

Antonis Kombos, a café owner, also told the hearing that he had slept with Mrs Pink's daughter while she was under-age, and said that Mrs Pink had an affair with another man.

Mrs Pink, 42, was last night said to be "devastated and disgusted" by the latest attack on her and her daughter, Katherine, now 21. She has denied having an affair with anyone other than Pavlos Georgiou, who is charged with infecting her. Her family strenuously denied the latest allegations.

Mr Kombos, 33, told the Larnaca court on the final day of testimony that when he warned Mrs Pink that she was with an Aids carrier she replied: "Yes, I know. I'm dating him."

Mr Kombos told the court that Mrs Pink had had a relationship with another Cypriot, called just Damianos, before that with Mr Georgiou. He said that at the same time he was having an affair with Mrs Pink's daughter and spent nights next door to her and Damianos. "I presume when two people spend the night together, they sleep together," he said.

Mr Georgiou's lawyer, Tassos Economou, earlier told reporters he had tried to persuade Damianos to give evidence, but the man was now married with children and was too embarrassed to face the court. Mr Kombos insisted under cross-examination that he hardly knew the defendant and decided only on Thursday to support his evidence.

Questioned about his relationship with Miss Pink, Kombos said he began seeing her in 1988 but stopped in 1993 when he went abroad. He told the court he did not know her age at the time. The prosecution made no mention of the fact that she would have been 12 in 1988, but said after the hearing they were making further inquiries.

Mr Georgiou has denied knowingly and negligently transmitting the virus and in his testimony claimed that Mrs Pink was a "nymphomaniac" who refused to let him wear a condom. If found guilty he faces two years in prison or a £2,000 fine. The trial was adjourned to July 16.

Pink: disgusted by new claims made in court

Jeans market in need of a turn-up

By Tim Jones

SALES of jeans fell by 2 per cent in the past year, from £1.18 billion to £1.15 billion. Fewer than half of the population bought a pair of jeans, Mintel, the market analyst company, said. Some 43 million pairs of jeans will be bought this year, the lowest figure since the late 1980s, and four million down on the total four years ago.

Sales are likely to decline further because of a projected drop in the number of 15 to 24-year-olds. Since 1992 the average price of a pair of jeans has risen by almost 12 per cent from £24 to £26.86, because of the increasing popularity of designer makes such as Armani, Guess and Calvin Klein.

Levi's share of the market has dropped by 2.6 per cent in the past year to 21.6 per cent, but Wrangler's has risen by more than 6 per cent. Men, the report shows, are now more likely to buy more jeans than women, and choose more expensive brands.

More than 55 per cent of men bought at least one pair of jeans last year, compared with 43 per cent of women. While most spent less than £50, 18 per cent of men and nearly 12 per cent of women spent more than that.

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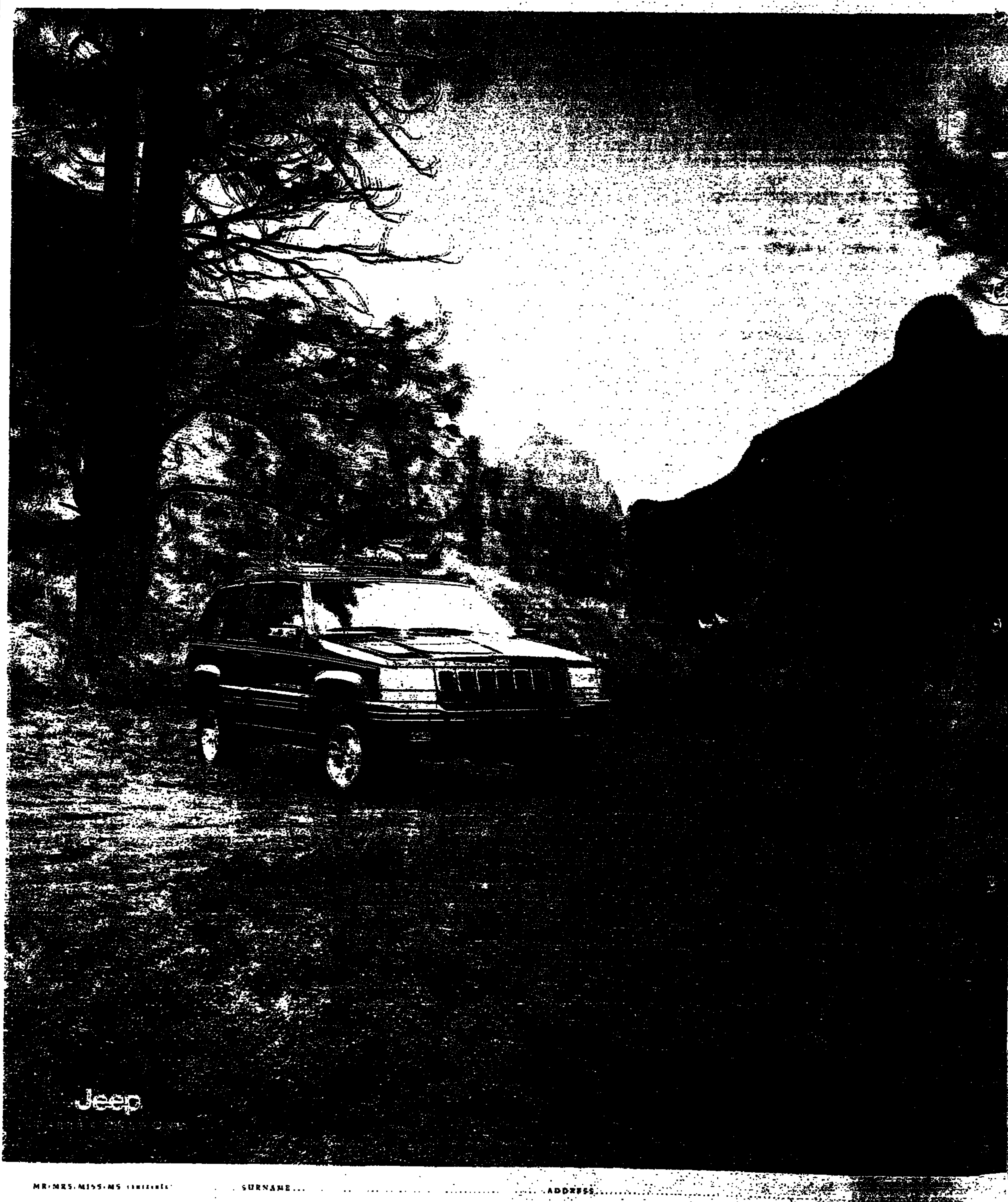
A FULLY GROWN GRIZZLY BEAR may stand over 9 feet high, and weigh in at over 900lb. It's a powerful swimmer, a very capable climber and it can easily overtake a human. Unless, that is, the human is driving a Jeep Grand Cherokee, where masses of torque and a 0-60 m.p.h. acceleration time of under 10 seconds can come in very handy. (Even the Laredo turbo diesel gets there in just 13.9 secs.)



MR·MRS·MISS·MS (initials) .... SURNAME .... ADDRESS ....
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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft SATURDAY JULY 5 1997

Nearly 25% of members opt for cash after Woolwich flotation

Spending boom alarm

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY AND KAREN ZAGOR

CITY fears that the consumer spending boom is set to accelerate grew yesterday as it emerged that nearly a quarter of Woolwich Building Society members have decided to sell their free shares immediately in its £5 billion flotation.

The huge sell-off will add £1.2 billion to a consumer sector already flush with cash from windfall payouts.

Analysts predicted yesterday that Woolwich shares will reach about 320p in first-day trading, valuing the company at £5 billion, and ensuring that the converting building society's 2.5 million members will share an average payout of nearly £2,000.

About £29 billion has been paid out in windfalls since Alliance & Leicester converted in April. Goldman Sachs, the US investment bank, yesterday raised its estimate of the total payout from building society and insurance company windfalls this year to £37 billion from an original prediction of £20 billion. It says that the windfall bonanza will boost personal disposable income by about 6.5 per cent this year.

The scale of the latest payout will increase pressure on the Bank of England to raise rates sharply to curb consumer demand. Economists predict that the Bank could increase rates as much as half a point when its monetary policy committee meets next week as the Budget failed to include substantial rises in consumer taxes.

The pound, which has soared since Wednesday's Budget on expectations that rates are set to rise again, moved to new highs again yesterday. Sterling's trade-weighted index hit a seven-year high of 104.0, while the pound hit a six-year high against the mark of DM2.9687.

But the stock market failed to capitalise on recent gains, closing down 18.9 points at 4,812.8 as profit-taking set in. Dealers said the market is likely to be more cautious next week before the Bank's meeting, after this week's 4.5 per cent rise.

Some 23 per cent of Woolwich members have indicated that they will sell their shares at once through the share sale facility. Those shares will be auctioned to institutions on the first four days of next week with about 5.8 per cent to be sold on the first day.

Qualifying members of the society, which is converting to a bank, will receive at least 450 shares each. The average allocation is 657 shares, according to the Woolwich, which has 5.5 per cent of the mortgage market and 4.1 per cent of retail savings and is Britain's fifth-biggest lender. It is expected to join the FTSE 100 after the next review in September.

☐ The World Gold Council yesterday launched a stinging attack on the Reserve Bank of Australia after news that it had made a major gold sale sent prices to a 12-year low. The council called the bank's sale of 167 tonnes unnecessary and lacking in sensitivity.

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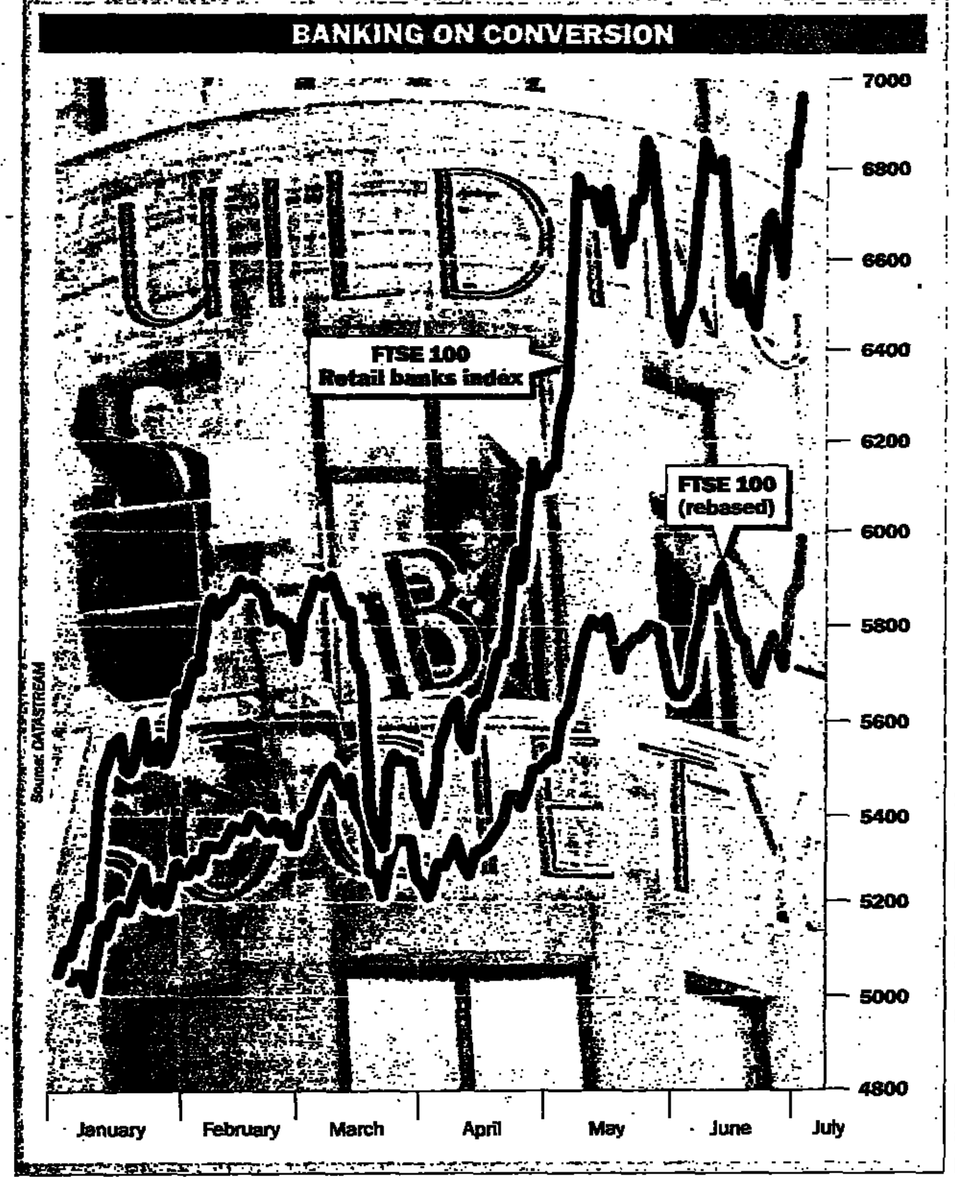
BANKING ON CONVERSION



Source: DATASTREAM

London Clubs bid set for approval

BY DOMINIC WALSH AND JASON NISSÉ

THE Monopolies and Mergers Commission is expected to approve London Clubs International's £190 million bid for Capital Corporation, a rival casino group, when it presents its report to Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, on Monday.

Neither company would comment, but an insider at Capital Corp, which is resisting the takeover, confirmed that the bid appeared likely to be waved through. However, the MMC may attach conditions, which would allow Mrs Beckett to reject its recommendations and block the bid.

The proposed acquisition would add Crockfords and the Colony Club to the London Clubs portfolio, and the MMC has to decide whether this gives the group an effective monopoly of the casino market in the capital.

There have been suggestions that the MMC might give the green light on condition that London Clubs sells one or two of its seven existing London casinos.

Alan Goodenough, chief executive of London Clubs, withdrew the bid as soon as it was referred to the MMC, and it is by no means certain he is still interested in pursuing it. "Even if the bid gets waved through, one can't automatically assume he will bid again," said a source close the company.

Mrs Beckett last week overturned the MMC's decision that Bass should be allowed to buy Carlsberg-Tetley.

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Fears mount over troubled WEW

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM, RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

FEARS are growing about trading at WEW, the discount retailer, whose shares have fallen sharply this year to an all-time low.

Market sources suggest the company, which made the latest in a series of profit warnings in May, is preparing to make another statement to clarify its position. The company is understood to have been holding talks with its main shareholder, Warburg Pincus.

WEW, under the management of James Millar, chairman, and Richard Boland, chief executive, has been slowly converting its What Everyone Wants stores to a new format named The Store.

Richard Ratner, a retail analyst at Mees Pierson, said: "The conversions have worked, but WEW is bleeding from the tail-end of unconverted stores." He expects the company to report a full-year loss in excess of £2 million. The loss could hit WEW's ability to roll out The Store into other branches.

The old stores have been trading poorly all year, but the bad summer weather has made matters worse and like-for-like sales are believed to have plunged.

Mr Boland sold 80,000 shares from his 155,700 personal holding in the chain last month at 14p a share. He said the cash was needed to pay a tax bill. The shares closed at 9½p yesterday, compared with a 12-month high of 29½p and 84½p in 1993.

BT pension fund buys control of Argent

BY PAUL DURMAN

INSTITUTIONAL shareholders are furious that Michael and Peter Freeman, the highly regarded property developers who run Argent, have sold out and surrendered control to the BT pension scheme for 370p a share, much less than the stock market price.

The brothers' sale yesterday of their 7.6 per cent stake for about £18 million was accompanied by the sale of the 32.9 per cent of Argent owned by venture capital backers, led by Warburg, Pincus. The BT scheme and its BriTel Property arm now own 40.2 per cent of Argent which, under the Takeover Code, forces it to bid 375p for each outstanding share. This was a sixth below the opening share price yesterday of 450p, though it promptly fell to 372½p. The BriTel offer values Argent at £240 million, against £150 million at flotation. It also represents a 20 per cent premium to the net assets in the last accounts. It is argued that the sub-market price is justified because the Freemans are leaving, although they intend to retain some links with Argent.

Michael Freeman: selling

The BT scheme does not want Argent shareholders to accept its offer, and wants Argent to continue as a quoted company. But investors are angry at becoming minority holders in a company controlled by BriTel. Another leading institution said: "Who on earth is going to be managing it? We are very disappointed."

Argent refrained from advising shareholders what action to take. It set out six reasons for and six against holding on to Argent shares. Michael Freeman, 45, said he and Peter, 41, were entrepreneurial developers, not landlords — the main role of many quoted property companies.

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Phantom writ haunts Lloyd-Webber

BY JON ASHWORTH

LORD Lloyd-Webber has been caught up in a ghoulish row with Gaston Leroux, the Frenchman who penned *Phantom of the Opera* more than 80 years ago.

The Really Useful Group, which oversees Lord Lloyd-Webber's productions, is being sued for allegedly failing to pass more than £700,000 in royalty payments to the estate of the late writer. Details are outlined in a writ lodged at the High Court in London. Really Useful said the writ had yet to be served, and it was not in a position to comment. Henry Hepworth, the London law firm acting for the plaintiffs, declined to comment.

The claim is thought to relate to a change in copyright law that may mean the Andrew Lloyd Webber/Cameron Mackintosh production of *Phantom* was out of copyright in the UK for a certain period of time. The writ refers to an agreement in July 1988 between Really Useful and the Leroux estate, in respect of performances of *Phantom* in territories other than France.

Phantom made its debut in London in October 1986. The estate is claiming £721,252 in royalty periods, together with a declaration for payment of sums that may be found to be due.

The action is further unwelcome publicity for Lord Lloyd-Webber, who gave warning recently that the days of the grandiose musical could be numbered. Patrick McKenna, chairman and chief executive of Really Useful, left in May amid misgivings over strategy. Lord Lloyd-Webber has since taken a hands-on role.

Leroux wrote *Phantom* in 1911, portraying his twisted anti-hero as a circus freak who helped to build the Paris Opera. The 1943 film cast him as a bitter composer, disfigured by acid.

Low poll threat to Tunnel deal

BY JASON NISSÉ

EUROTUNNEL may have to put back its meeting to seek shareholder approval for a £4.4 billion rescue restructuring until autumn, increasing the risk of the troubled company going into receivership.

The meeting is due to take place in Paris on Thursday, but the company and its adviser, Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, are worried that they will not be able to secure a quorum of 25 per cent of shareholders voting on the deal to enable the restructuring to be approved.

"We are reasonably confident that we will succeed in the vote on the restructuring if we get a quorum, and we are working hard to get a quorum," a Eurotunnel spokeswoman said yesterday.

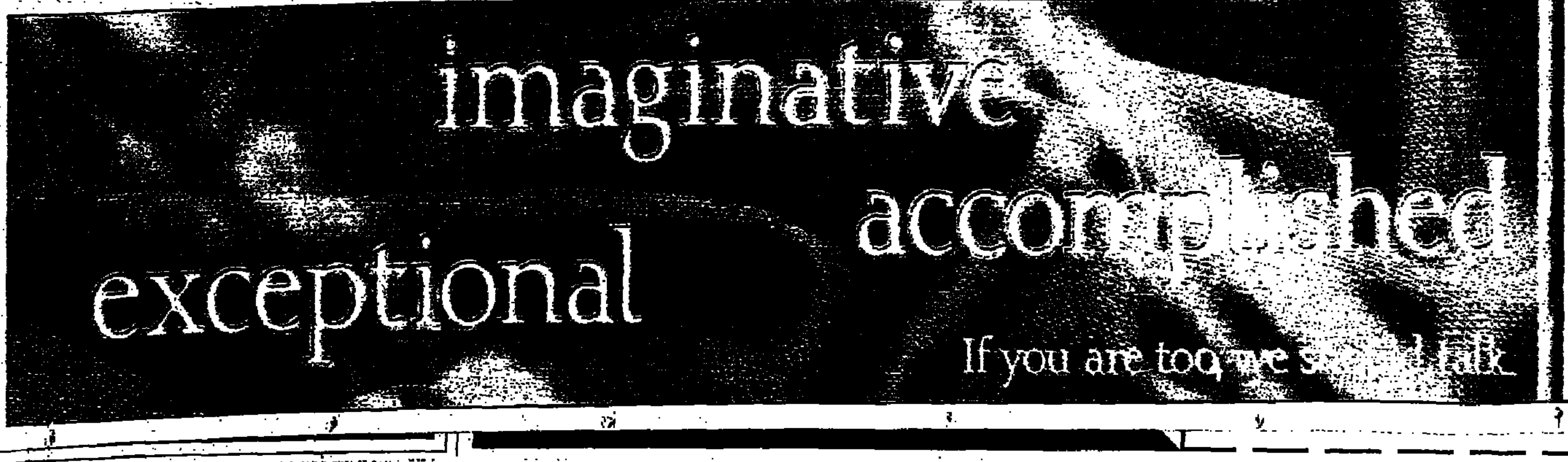
The company was boosted last week when Northern Cross, a Bermuda-based investment company holding 4 per cent of Eurotunnel shares, and the Association of Eurotunnel Shareholders, a private investor group, said that they would back the company.

However, Eurotunnel may be a victim of its own success. The vast majority of its 600,000 shareholders have a holding worth under £500 and may not be inclined to vote if they think the outcome is a foregone conclusion.

If the quorum is not met, the shareholder meeting will be put back by at least two months and may be held at the same time as the 174 banks meet to agree the deal. However, it is a condition of the bankers giving approval to the restructuring that shareholders have already backed it.

This will be Eurotunnel's second attempt to put the refinancing to a vote and secure a quorum. Last month's meeting needing a 33 per cent quorum received proxies from shareholders representing only 6.72 per cent.

FTSE 100	4812.8	(-18.9)
Yield	3.39%	
FTSE All share	2260.61	(-8.75)
Nikkei	19968.00	(-153.41)
New York:		
Dow Jones	Closed	
S&P Composite	—	
Federal Funds	Closed	(5⁷⁄₁₆%)
Long Bond	—	(100⁵⁄₃₂)
Yield	—	(6.62%)
3-mth Interbank	7%	(7%)
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	114⅝	(114¹⁵⁄₃₂)
New York:		
$	Closed	(1.6906)
London:		
$	1.6877	(1.6838)
DM	2.9600	(2.9449)
FFr	9.9815	(9.9285)
SFr	2.4750	(2.4675)
Yen	191.78	(191.20)
£ Index	104.0	(103.5)
London:		
DM	Closed	(1.7520)
FFr	—	(5.8990)
SFr	—	(1.4680)
Yen	—	(113.55)
$ Index	102.4	(102.3)
Tokyo close Yen 113.10		
Brent 15-day (Sep)	$18.20	($18.30)
London close	$324.25	($331.65)



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Brussels rejects Boeing / McDonnell merger

By Oliver August

THE European Commission yesterday increased the likelihood of a trade war with the US by rejecting the $13 billion merger of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas, the two US aerospace groups. The Commission said it opposed the merger because it would damage Airbus Industrie, the European consortium that includes British Aerospace.

Competition representatives from the 15 EU member countries agreed at a meeting in Brussels to oppose the merger unless the US groups offer concessions over supplier deals with three US airlines. The deal was unconditionally approved by the US Federal Trade Commission on Tuesday. An EU Commission spokesman said: "If adequate remedies are not offered the proposed concentration should be prohibited." He added that US concessions offered so far were "not sufficient" to win approval under EU anti-trust regulations. The merger was announced last December and is in the final stage of completion.

The competition representatives unanimously agreed with Karel van Miert, the EU Competition Commissioner, that the merger would give Boeing a near-monopoly position in the aircraft industry. The commission spokesman said: "Commitments offered so far by Boeing are not sufficient to prevent such a strengthening of their dominant position."

Boeing said that it was very disappointed with the ruling, but that it would continue talks next week before a meeting of EU Commissioners on July 23. A Boeing spokesman said: "We would obviously like to finish this as soon as possible but there is room for further talks."

The Commission is known to have two main concerns about the merger. First, in civil aviation the combined group would have a market share of about 70 per cent worldwide and supply spare parts to over 90 per cent of aircraft more than 100 seats. Secondly, the consolidation of defence activity in the US is threatening independent arms manufacturing in Europe.

Mirror Group pays £297m for Midland newspaper publisher

By Eric Reguly

THE Mirror Group became the dominant newspaper force in the Midlands yesterday with an agreement to buy Midland Independent Newspapers, publisher of *The Birmingham Post* and *Evening Mail*, for £297 million.

The Mirror is paying 210p a share for MIN, a premium of 41 per cent to the price on June 16, the day before the two companies were forced to reveal their merger talks. MIN was floated at 140p in 1994 and has rarely climbed above that level until recently.

MIN shareholders have the option of taking cash or a partial share alternative. Mirror Group will issue no more than 60 million new shares, equivalent to 14.3 per cent of the number of shares in issue. Yesterday, it bought 25 per cent of MIN from existing shareholders.

Analysts said the purchase was neither a bargain nor unusually expensive. The price is equivalent to 14.2 times historic operating earnings. Johnston Press, by comparison, paid 16.1 times earnings for Emap's regional newspapers

David Montgomery, chief executive of Mirror Group, owner of *The Mirror*, the second-largest daily tabloid, the *Daily Record* in Scotland and the Live TV cable channels, said the merged group would make initial annual cost savings of £5 million.

Some of the savings will come from reducing administration costs and larger bulk purchases of newsprint. He would not rule out redundancies, but said that the initial £5 million in savings did not include job losses. MIN has about 2,000 employees.

Mirror said the acquisition would enhance earnings in the first year of ownership. Mirror shares rose 14½p to 200½p while MIN closed at 195½p, up 7p. A rival offer is not expected, although most newspaper groups, including the Telegraph and Newsquest, owner of the Westminster Press chain, took a close look at MIN.

MIN expects to reveal pretax profits, before exceptional items, of £13.2 million in the half year to the end of June, up 59 per cent over the same period last year.

It will pay an interim dividend of 2p as well as a second interim dividend of 3p late this year or early next year. The takeover, which requires government approval, probably will not be completed until December.

MIN's directors owned only about 1 per cent of the equity. Chris Oakley, the chief executive of MIN who is to become a Mirror Group director, will make about £450,000 from the deal.

Sir Norman Fowler, chairman of MIN, will become the chairman of a new Mirror Group board for the Midlands region.

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David Montgomery gets his hands on *The Birmingham Post* with an offer for MIN

Thorn sets aside £30m for rentals withdrawal

By Sarah Cunningham
Retail Correspondent

THORN, the troubled rentals group, is to set aside £30 million to withdraw from its loss-making domestic rentals businesses in France, Benelux and Finland. The closures will lead to the loss of 500 jobs.

Thorn also said it has sold its 29-store Canadian business for an undisclosed sum to RTO Enterprises, Canada's largest rent-to-own operator.

Withdrawal from France, Benelux and Finland will be over the next two to three years. In the year to March 31 the 64 stores concerned lost about £3 million on turnover of just over £40 million. The cash impact of the £30 million provision is expected to be more than offset by operating cashflow generated over the withdrawal period.

Thorn has been beset by problems since demerging from EMI last year. At the end of May it announced it was setting aside £17.1 million to cover the cost of damages it may have to pay after losing a legal action in the US. Earlier in the year it said it would close 90 of its smaller UK Radio Rentals outlets. The company said yesterday that it "is responding to challenging trading conditions with actions underway to improve cash generation and investment returns".

The shares, which began at 408p on its demerger last August, closed at 175p yesterday, up 3p.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Oftel orders BT to lift charge card tariff

OFTEL, the phone regulator, using its new powers under the fair trading condition in British Telecom's licence, yesterday ordered BT to cease running its charge card business at a loss because it said it was acting as a barrier to competition. Don Cruickshank, Director-General of Telecommunications, said: "From figures provided by BT, it is clear that their current revenues from charge cards do not cover the cost of running the service . . . The low retail prices set by BT mean other operators cannot compete on equal price terms."

BT controls some 92 per cent of the charge card market, which last year made a loss of £8.7 million on turnover of £116 million. Mercury's charge card has only 7 per cent of the market. BT was charging an average 11p a minute for inland charge card calls. The company said that, from August 7, it will implement a single, 20p a minute rate for inland direct-dialled calls.

Transworld buys AllMed

ALLIED MEDICARE, the nursing and home care services provider, has been bought by Transworld Healthcare for £36.2 million. Transworld is the British subsidiary of Transworld Inc, the US company chaired by Timothy Aitken. Allied Medicare was founded 25 years ago by Vanessa Griffiths, who is selling the company. Transworld intends to expand the business in the South East. Transworld Inc recently bought Omnicare, the AIM-quoted home healthcare provider.

Insurers to merge

GERMANY'S second-largest primary insurer is to be created through the merger of Munich Re with Victoria Holding. The new group will be called Ergo and will have a total premium income of DM21 billion. Investments will exceed DM100 billion and annual profits will be DM380 million, based on combined 1996 results. The group's size will be second only to Allianz, which last year had global premium income of DM74.6 billion. Existing brand names will be retained.

Rover offers pay deal

ROVER, the carmaker, will guarantee its 39,000 workers a 3.5 per cent annual pay rise for the next three years. The deal comes after five days of talks and has union backing. The 3.5 per cent rise in November will be followed by inflation plus 0.5 per cent, or 3.5 per cent, whichever is higher, in each of the next two years. An extra 1 per cent will be paid from November to those with a year's service. Rover also wants to replace the profit-related pay scheme with a holiday bonus.

Fortune seeks £23m

FORTUNE OIL, the Hong Kong lubricants and fuel distribution group with shares listed in London, has launched a £23.4 million cash call to fund a joint venture in China. Fortune will work with the China Aviation Oil Supply Corporation to provide aircraft refuelling services at up to 16 civilian airports. A 3-for-14 rights issue of 234 million shares at 11p will provide £12.1 million to help to finance the venture and £3.15 million to build a petrol station chain. The rest will pay off debt.

MEPC's £30m buy

MEPC, the property group that rebuffed a merger proposal from Hammerson four months ago, has announced the £30 million acquisition of the long leasehold of Priory House and Cannon House in central Birmingham from City Site Estates. The 27,800 sq metre property currently houses branches of NatWest Bank and Sharelink and generates about £3 million a year. The purchase price represents an initial net yield of 9.25 per cent.

British Borneo deal

BRITISH BORNEO, the independent oil and gas company, yesterday agreed to buy BHP Petroleum's interests in two North Sea blocks. One has already produced 200 million barrels of oil, and British Borneo hopes that new drilling techniques could turn it into a commercial development. The company has completed a separate deal to buy a 20 per cent stake in one of Mobil's blocks, containing oil and gas. It says it will continue with deep water drilling in the Gulf of Mexico.

Dougan backs Mackie call

By Fraser Nelson

PAT DOUGAN, who resigned as chairman of Mackie International last month, is backing the troubled textile machinery company's £5.25 million cash call with £1 million of his personal fortune.

Mr Dougan, who was brought in by the Government to rescue the company from near-collapse six years ago, has promised to buy the new shares if the company fails to find any other buyers. The agreement will confound City analysts, who suggested that Mr Dougan left on acrimonious terms when Sul Sahota, its new chief executive, discovered a £7.2 million loss for 1996 against the reported £400,000 loss.

Mr Dougan left at the same time as Shaun Harte, finance director. Peter Long, Mr Sahota's predecessor, resigned in March.

Mr Dougan, who is credited with bringing Mackie from the brink of insolvency to flotation, remains the company's largest single shareholder with a 2.3 per cent stake now worth £88,000.

He brought the company to the market at 77p a share four years ago. New shares are being issued on a two-for-five basis at 20p apiece.

The shares jumped from 22½p to 28p on their return from suspension yesterday.

PGA off the fairway

By Jason Nissé

MARK McCormack, who is set to make £9 million by attracting sponsors to the Millennium Experience in Greenwich, yesterday saw more than £1 million wiped from the value of his investment in PGA European Tour Courses, the London-listed golf course company of which he is a director.

The fall came as PGA — which owns courses in the UK, Sweden and Portugal — gave a profit warning and announced the departure of Sean Kelly, who joined the group as managing director only last year.

PGA shares have lost nearly half their value since Mr McCormack and Richard Thompson, the former chairman of QPR, sold their golf course interests to the company last year. They fell 8½p, to 51½p, yesterday. Mr McCormack's IMG has a 19.3 per cent stake in PGA and Mr Thompson's investment company holds 22.9 per cent.

The departure of Mr Kelly — who is expected to receive a £200,000 payoff — makes him the third executive director to leave PGA in less than three months. Andrew Oliver resigned in April, and he was followed soon after by Rupert Horner, the finance director.

Mr Thompson is to become executive chairman.

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8.30am - 9.00pm MON - FRI; 9.00am - 3.00pm SAT; 10.00am - 2.00pm SUN.
Internet address: woolwich-direct@o-mail.com

The rate is variable throughout the term and the APR is variable and typical and calculated on the assumption that the discounted mortgage rate will apply for the full term of the loan. However after the first year, the Society's prevailing standard variable mortgage rate will in fact apply. These terms apply only where a written offer of advance was issued on or after 11.06.97 and the mortgage completed by 31.10.97. Typical example: based on an interest only loan an interest rate of 4.95% 5.1% APR (this represents a discount of 3% off the Society's standard variable mortgage rate currently 7.95% 8.3% APR) and a property value of £70,000, a couple taking out a mortgage of £52,000 over 25 years (where the amount of the advance is 74% of the Society's valuation of the property) would pay interest of £214.50 per month gross (300 payments). Deeds Administration Fee payable on redemption £50 and a single repayment of capital £52,000. Total amount payable £118,415.00 4.95% 5.1% APR. A first charge over your property will be required as security for a mortgage. For interest only loans, you are advised to arrange a suitable repayment vehicle to repay the capital at the end of the mortgage term. The Fee Saver Plus Mortgage is available for new customers only who already have a mortgage with another lender, who are not moving but want to transfer their mortgage to Woolwich Direct and is limited to up to 75% of the Society's valuation of the property. The Society adheres to the Solicitors Introduction and Referral Code 1990. The firms recommended will give you independent and confidential advice. There is a minimum advance of £15,000 and a maximum advance of £500,000 for a Fee Saver Plus Mortgage. If a Fee Saver Plus Mortgage is either redeemed (in full or in part) or transferred to another scheme, before the fifth anniversary of the date on which interest is first charged in respect of that mortgage, the value of the Fee Saver Plus package you have received must be repaid in full and a redemption fee equivalent to the savings made as a result of the 3% discount will be charged. The redemption fee will be subject to a minimum charge equivalent to six months' interest calculated at the rate payable at the time of repayment. All mortgages are subject to status and valuation and a minimum age of 18. A written quotation is available from Woolwich Direct, PO Box 800, Sidcup, Kent DA14 6UE. Woolwich Direct is a service provided by Woolwich Building Society which represents only Woolwich Life and Woolwich Unit Trust Managers which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for life assurance and unit trust business.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. FSD21

Conran takes his recipe to America

By Dominic Walsh

SIR Terence Conran, the design guru and restaurateur, has moved quickly to boost his earnings after a judge's ruling on Thursday that he must provide his third wife with a £10 million divorce settlement.

Sir Terence, who has changed the face of the London restaurant scene with eateries such as Quaglino's and Mezzo, has signalled his intention to do it all over again across the Atlantic.

Joel Kissin, managing director of Conran Restaurants since its inception in 1991, is moving to New York to oversee ambitious US expansion plans.

The first establishment is due to open next year at the Bridgemarket development near Manhattan's 59th Street. It will house a Quaglino's-style modern brasserie, a more upmarket 100-seat dining room and a Conran Shop.

Mr Kissin, who recently oversaw the opening in London of the £10 million Bluebird restaurant and foodmarket complex, in Chelsea, will remain a director of, and shareholder in, the UK company and is taking a minority stake in the US business. He said the business was at an early stage, but added: "Clearly, I'm not going out there just to do one restaurant, and there is every possibility that we may end up opening as many as we have here. In fact, we may slide in a smaller one before Bridgemarket."

In the UK, Conran's plans centre on turning its Zinc Bar & Grill concept into a chain. The first 100-cover unit is to open next month just off Piccadilly, in central London.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.35	2.18
Austria Sch	21.72	20.17
Belgium Fr	63.90	59.32
Canada $	2.433	2.258
Cyprus Cyp£	0.912	0.845
Denmark Kr	11.79	10.97
Finland Mkk	9.31	8.61
France Fr	10.39	9.66
Germany Dm	3.11	2.88
Greece Dr	480	452
Hong Kong $	13.79	12.66
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.16	1.08
Israel Shk	6.31	5.86
Italy Lira	3044	2822
Japan Yen	205.80	189.40
Malta	0.684	0.628
Netherlds Gld	3.506	3.228
New Zealand $	2.64	2.41
Norway Kr	12.89	12.01
Portugal Esc	310.00	289.00
S Africa Rd	8.32	7.40
Spain Pta	260.00	242.50
Sweden Kr	13.78	12.75
Switzerland Fr	2.62	2.41
Turkey Lira	261368	242776
USA $	1.785	1.651

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

ALARM BELLS

"The phones started ringing at the National Association of Pension Funds' headquarters even before Gordon Brown had finished his budget speech. By the weekend, alarmed members of the public were on the line, worried about the threat to their pensions arising from the chancellor's raid"

Business Focus — The Sunday Times tomorrow

PLAIN SPEAKING HOME INSURANCE

"Here's 10 good reasons to change your home insurance"

Nigel Bruce

1 On average switching to Prudential could save you around £100.
2 £25 OFF your first year's buildings premium if you switch your home insurance from your mortgage lender or £15 OFF your first year's buildings premium if you are a first time Prudential home insurance customer.
3 15% OFF your contents premium when you take our combined buildings and contents insurance.
4 Up to 20% OFF your buildings and contents premiums if you are aged 45 or over.
5 Up to 17.5% OFF your contents premium if you meet our household security requirements.
6 You'll join more than 1.75 million households who have already chosen Prudential for their home insurance.
7 Over 90% of our customers renewed their policies with us last year.
8 The security of dealing with the UK's largest life insurance company.
9 FREE home security video when you call for a free quote.
10 Interest free payments by direct debit over 12 months.

For a free quote and a free home security video ring
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For your protection, calls on this number will be recorded.
Please note, in some cases we may not be able to provide a quote. Please quote reference PRS 940.

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هكذا من الأصل

A WORKING WEEK FOR: BRIAN GILBERTSON

A world-class operator of African extraction

Carl Mortished meets the man behind the transformation of a stodgy conglomerate as he prepares it for a $1bn share offering

Monday
Tuesday
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Friday

THERE is a tale that is told when you mention Brian Gilbertson to a fellow South African. When the chairman of Gencor arrives by helicopter at the mining group's Johannesburg headquarters, the staff are said to murmur: "The ego has landed." Sadly, the man does not quite live up to the stereotype.

By rights, a mining boss should be bigheaded, callously sweeping the earth and people from his path as he pursues that ounce of yellow metal. Yet Brian Gilbertson is remarkably reserved, a polite man and reluctant speaker who will reveal, if pressed, a dry sense of humour. He is in London for what will be the crowning achievement of his career — the launch of Billiton, the demerged non-precious metals arm of Gencor, on the London market.

It is an astonishing story of a huge investment gamble made with other people's money in a period of political turmoil. It is also about the transformation of a stodgy Afrikaaner conglomerate into a world-class mining company. The gambles have paid off and the demerged Billiton is now preparing for an international share offering to raise $1 billion, but the significance has to be teased out of Gilbertson. He insists: "In a sense it was a gamble, but I emphasise that we did the most careful calculations."

When Gilbertson joined Gencor in 1988, the company was a typical South African octopus with interests in oil, paper products and finance, as well as mining. Like most conglomerates, the group was valued by the market at a discount to the sum of its parts and a debate grew up about its future. Gencor was then run by Derek Keys, but in 1992 Gilbertson found himself in the driving seat.

He said: "Derek went to play golf with President de Klerk and when he came back he said he was going to become the Minister for Trade and Industry. To my total astonishment — I mean that seriously — I became chairman."

Gilbertson took over in the middle of a huge and, at times, very public debate initiated by Keys over whether Gencor should "unbundle" — shed its non-mining interests, including Engen and Sappi, and focus on the business of extracting gold, platinum and coal from the ground. "It was the first important decision I had to make," he remembers. Gencor's two big shareholders, Sanlam and Rembrandt, the Afrikaans institutions, went along with his decision to unbundle.

"Within 15 minutes of the shareholder resolution to go forward, I delivered my letter of resignation to the other companies. Engen asked me to stay on, but the others were pleased to see me go," he says with a smile. He found himself with a focused mining group, but trapped by exchange controls in a country that was ignored by foreign investors. The next challenge was to invest abroad.

Years previously, Gilbertson had what he calls his damascene conversion. A trip to a small Gencor goldmine in Brazil led to a visit to the massive Carajas iron ore operations in the Amazon. Gilbertson becomes animated when he describes the operation run by CVRD, the Brazilian state mining company — "Going there and seeing what they had built there, this huge railway line, this huge iron ore deposit and then they point out in the distance where there is another mountain filled with iron ore".

Gilbertson would deny it — his grey eyes stare very intensely if he disagrees with you — but South Africa had become too small for his ambitions. World-class assets meant literally that, but Gencor had no means to raise money abroad and even getting visas to travel to some countries had once been impossible.

However, black rule changed the world for Gencor. Curiously, the former Afrikaaner conglomerate, a weak rival to Anglo-American, the mining and industrial colossus, became the beneficiary of political munificence of the highest order. Nelson Mandela himself presided over the opening of major Gencor investments, the $2 billion Alusaf Hillside aluminium smelter, the Columbus stainless steel plant and Gencor's glamorous new Johannesburg headquarters.

Billiton would not be climbing on to the world stage as an international mining group without a relaxation of exchange controls, and some analysts muse that Gencor has been groomed as a rival to Anglo-American. As one analyst jokingly puts it: "My enemy's enemy is my friend."

> ❛To my total astonishment — I mean that — I became chairman❜

The Gencor building reveals a bit more about Brian Gilbertson and perhaps what lies behind the anecdote about helicopters and egos. However, the explanation is not what you might expect. Like most established companies, Gencor had an art collection — a predictable series of landscapes of South Africa and lots of wildlife, nothing out of the ordinary for a mining company.

But a new company with a new building in a country undergoing radical change needed something different. So Gencor hired a consultant artist to help to commission a new collection. Kendell Geers wanted to reflect South Africa's transition from the old to the new and Gilbertson liked the idea. But the combination of mining corporation and an artist with a subversive reputation caused some sparks to fly.

The first purchase, a painting by William Kentridge, was indicative of what was to come — a dark and brooding Johannesburg street scene with a long line of protesters carrying red banners. Painted to represent the period in 1990 when marches were first legalised, the piece was displayed at the time of the disastrous Inkatha march on the ANC headquarters in Johannesburg and almost caricatured the anxieties of white South Africans before the elections. More works followed, including one in which a landscape is being crushed by what looks like a towering lump of coal, the piece being entitled *A nicely built city never resists destruction*.

Enraged Gencor employees stuck office memo labels over certain paintings considered pornographic, but, in the midst of all the outrage, Gilbertson refused to ban any of the works, although some of the more controversial pieces have ended up in his own office.

Having challenged established notions of good taste, Gilbertson went further and embarked on a financial and corporate adventure that was to be more far-reaching than the unbundling of Gencor. Gilbertson comments: "We realised that South African groups which had been leaders were slipping behind because they could not operate internationally."

His opportunity came in 1994 as Shell, the Anglo-Dutch oil group, decided to divest its loss-making metals divisions. "It was difficult. Two billion dollars' worth of assets — but all we had was $300 million offshore," remembers Gilbertson. To make matters worse, the core of Billiton's portfolio was aluminium, a metal that was plumbing new depths as Russian producers dumped stockpiles in a desperate search for dollars. "Aluminium was dropping like a brick and analysts were saying we should not touch this, but we made a judgment that $1,200 per tonne was simply not a viable long-term price," Gilbertson explains. Securing finance proved an almost insurmountable obstacle as exchange controls prevented Gencor from funding the deal and the banks were wary of backing a myriad of joint ventures scattered across the globe. There was no company, no audited track record and no balance sheet. In the end, Gencor persuaded Shell to fill the gap in the short term by subscribing to a $300 million bond issue and Gencor bought Billiton for $1.2 billion.

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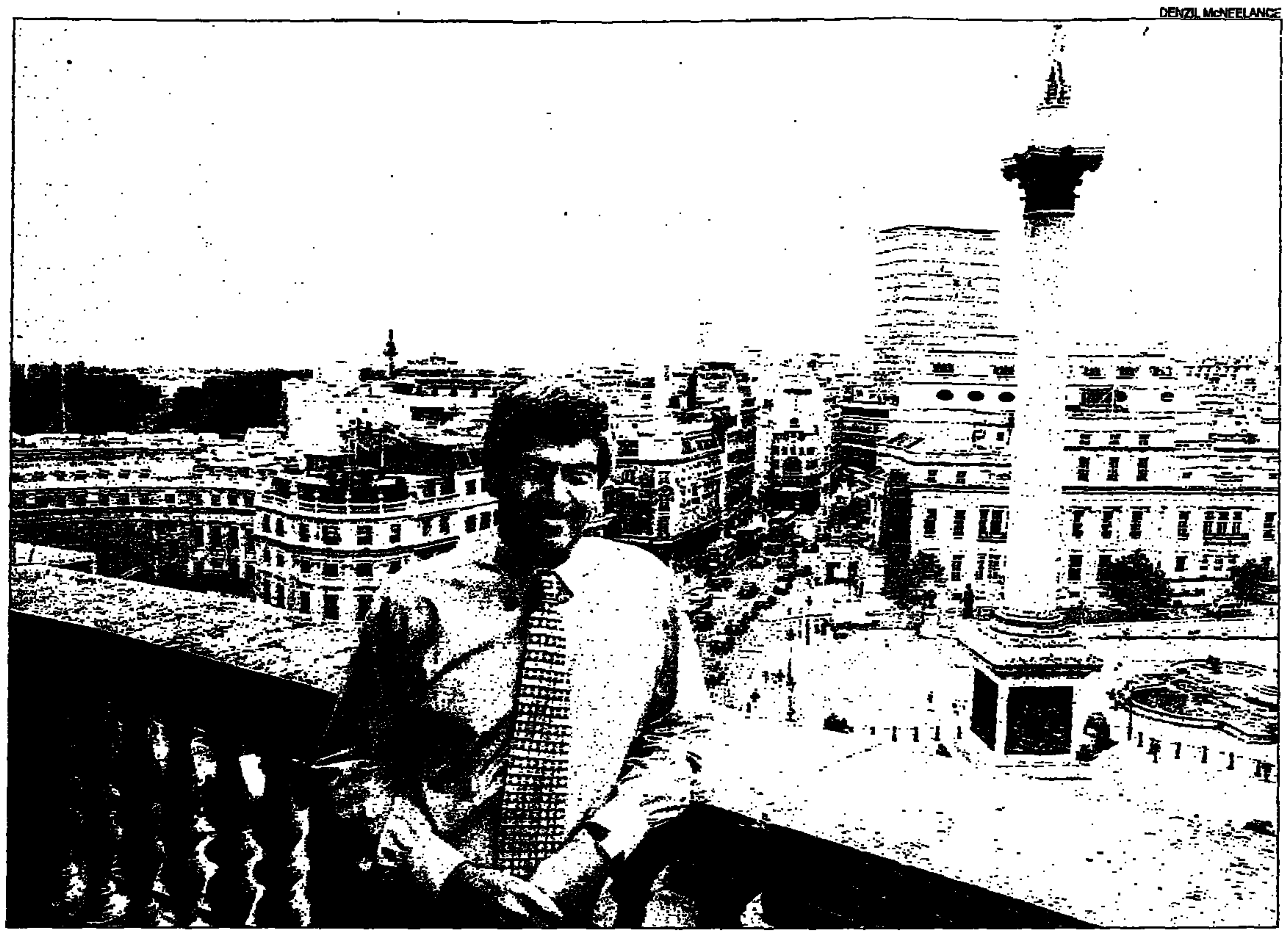
Gilbertson's team budgeted the deal on the assumption of "disaster", that the aluminium price remained flat for three years, but no sooner was the contract signed than the aluminium producer nations signed an agreement restraining production and the aluminium price soared. Gencor paid off the Billiton debt in short order and prepared to float the business in London.

Gilbertson appears a bit nervous about the planned investor roadshows, not least in America with the complex SEC disclosure rules, alien to a South African used to the friendly Johannesburg exchange. However, there are reasons why Billiton may face a difficult ride in the international arena after so much success. Base metal prices are high and some analysts reckon that Billiton will be selling shares at the peak of the cycle, making it difficult to persuade investors that they should buy stock in a debt-free company, investing in mining assets at what may be the top of the market.

Gilbertson, aged 53, seems to be in a hurry. Gencor has done well in the new South Africa, enjoying such close relations with the Government that it was able to reclassify core South African assets as foreign components of the demerged Billiton. In the wider world, it will enjoy no such political favours, but Gilbertson is used to turmoil. In fact, he seems to thrive on it.

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Brian Gilbertson is in Britain for the launch on the London market of Billiton, the demerged non-precious metals arm of Gencor, the South African mining group

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Empty chair

SOME lackey from Hambros was refusing to admit this last night, but it is a truth universally acknowledged in the City that the bank is looking for a new chief executive. This is because on July 22, at the annual meeting, Lord Hambro will retire and Sir Chips Keswick, deputy chairman and chief executive, steps up. Hambros, quite sensibly, appointed headhunters a while back to find a new chief executive, and don't ask me why they won't admit it now. But I understand there has been a bit of a problem finding candidates. It could be to do with various other high-profile City jobs still vacant. More likely it is the Lanica factor. The bank's own internal inquiry into its support for the Andrew Regan bid for the Co-op is due out any time. Various watchdogs, such as the Bank of England and the Securities and Futures Authority, are also taking an interest. Not exactly tempting, is it?

● *OVERHEARD at a Westminster cocktail party: a new Labour MP was asked about the potential threat to Britain's booming economy — killing the goose that laid the golden egg, in other words. He replied: "If you fatten up the goose before you wring its neck, you get more meat off the breast."*

"Darlings, they're saying we weren't wonderful"

Grecian earn

THE latest scribbler to cut loose for another berth is Angelos Anastasiou, utilities expert at Panmure Gordon, who is heading for Credit Lyonnais Laing. There he will be joining the vastly experienced Arthur Hepher. But he will leave behind Tressan McCarthy, the telecoms analyst at Panmure, and also his wife. Angelos is, alas, no relation to the other Greek utilities analyst, Lakis Athanasiou at UBS. This means I cannot retell the story about the goat. But some of us remember, Lakis. Some of us remember.

Blair power

I WAS sitting next to a head of research at lunch the other day who admitted that the stream of circulars coming out of brokers these days was so copious that he was having to use journalistic skills to hype his own and catch the attention of fund managers. Within days, two examples hit my desk. Credit Lyonnais Laing again, always keen on an eye-catching cover, has a Budget commentary which features a rather good cartoon of Blair, Cook, Brown *et al* as the Spice Girls. Meanwhile BZW's own equity strategy commentary carries the simple headline "Bonkers".

Low/no pay

THE Low Pay Commission, under the leadership now of George Bain of the London Business School, needs you. But only if you are a City professional with experience in employment law, perhaps. Professor Bain is looking for members to serve as commissioners and help to set the minimum wage. No shortage of trade union members. But the commission is, in particular, after one or two City types with the necessary legal experience. Might serve as a useful cap to a successful career, but there is no money in it — expenses only, I'm afraid.

● *"FREAK storms" was the excuse for the collapse of all phone lines into the Norwich Union yesterday and the day before — all except the car phone of Allan Bridgewater, the chief executive, for some reason. Funnily enough,* The Times *has been inundated with complaints that the company's helpline was unobtainable for some days now — come rain or shine.*

Peace talk

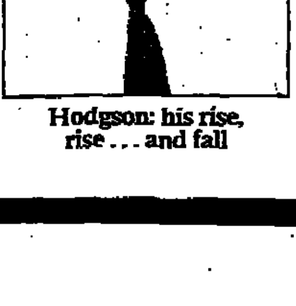
QUITE the little Acas, the BBC these days. On Thursday the *Today* programme persuaded Bill Morris of the transport union and Bob Ayling of British Airways to sit down in a little cubbyhole at Broadcasting House and settle their differences — in vain, as it turned out. Yesterday morning *The Business Breakfast* brought in Allan Black of the GMB union and Malcolm Fordy of the Construction Confederation to talk about the looming building workers' strike. Black said the employers had refused to talk: Fordy denied this. After the programme Adam Shaw, the presenter, suggested they might at least have a chat. They agreed. As Lord Reith might have put it, union shall speak unto employer.

Better late . . .

SOMETIMES publishing deadlines can be the very devil. A sycophantic profile in *The City*, the glossy magazine produced by the City of London Corporation, details the rise and rise again of Howard Hodgson, former funeral parlour entrepreneur and chief executive (it says here) of the lighter maker, Ronson International.

"But what of the future?" it concludes. "Does Hodgson see himself collecting his pension from Ronson in about 18 years from now?" Hodgson replies: "The board might have other ideas and throw me out head first from the window. You never know . . ." How perceptive; as a hurried postscript makes clear, Hodgson "has since tendered his resignation with immediate effect, following a vote by the board of Ronson". In other words, the directors threw him out of the window last month.

MARTIN WALLER



Hodgson: his rise, rise . . . and fall

Thought for the day

Should you be Browned off about your pension?
Talk to an IFA.

It's estimated* that post budget a 50 year old planning to retire at 60 can expect 15% less pension. If you'd like to know if Mr Brown's abolition of ACT tax credits will leave your pension provision in the red, an IFA can tell you. Call for the names of three IFAs near you. With your first half hour consultation free, the task will be less taxing still.

0117 971 1177

One phone call. Three approved IFAs near you. Free unbiased advice.
Or call in where you see the blue sign.

Yes please. I think I'd like to know more about talking to an IFA. Please send me my information pack, the names of three local IFAs and a voucher for my half hour free consultation. I understand that no-one will call me as a result of filling in this coupon. The address is: IFA Promotion Limited, 17-19 Emery Road, Brislington, Bristol BS4 5PF

Name ____ Address ____

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INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISER

See an IFA

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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Pre-flotation deals take Woolwich shares to 327p

SHARES in the **Woolwich** traded at 327p on the grey market last night before official dealings start on Monday. Brokers are forecasting brisk trading in the shares, matching the welcome given to the former building societies **Alliance & Leicester**, up 19p at 618½p yesterday, and **Halifax**, 8p better at 775½p.

IG Index, the City bookmaker, was quoting a range of 323p to 331p for Woolwich. It has established a useful track record in forecasting the opening price of mutual flotations.

Strong demand is expected from institutional investors before a series of auctions, starting on Monday. Brokers said fund managers may be willing to pay over the odds to increase their weightings. The fair value for the shares, calculated by the likes of Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, is put at just 250p.

Peter Newey, chairman of Hornby, down 15½p at 223p

Capitalised at more than £5 billion, Woolwich will automatically enter the FTSE-100 index in September, thereby attracting the attention of tracking funds. Just over 23 per cent of the Woolwich's 2.5 million members have chosen to sell their shares. Those choosing to hang on will reap a windfall worth about £1,470.

The rest of the banks took a breather after this week's strong gains, although there was selective support for **HSBC**, up 14½p to £19.53, **Lloyds TSB**, up 5½p to 681p, and **Standard Chartered**, up 6½p to 992p.

Elsewhere, share prices were again scaling new heights in early trading. Conditions in the futures market proved volatile as traders tried to claw back some of the huge losses suffered in the wake of the Budget. At one stage, the FTSE-100 hit an all-time high of 4,879.0, but, with Wall Street closed for Independence Day, the London market lacked direction. The index eventually closed 18.9 down, at 4,812.8, on turnover of 910 million shares. Even so, the gain on the week is 172.5, or 3.7 per cent.

Midland Independent Newspapers responded to an agreed bid from **Mirror Group** and a subsequent market raid on the shares with a rise of 7p to 195½p. Mirror, up 14½p at 200½p, is offering 210p a share, valuing MIN at £297 million. It bought 13.85 million MIN shares in the market at 210p. This stretches its total holding to 34.45 million shares, or 25 per cent of Midland.

Sterling's strength continued to cast a shadow over manufacturing companies. It has also forced Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, to take a bearish view of the engineering sector generally. Top of the list of casualties was **GKN**, down 39p at 920p, with **LucasVarity** 10½p off, at 192p, after the broker downgraded its recommendation for the shares from "buy" to "hold".

TI Group touched 450p before rebounding to reduce its deficit to 6p, at 473½p. The company has denied claims that changes to the tax treatment of pension funds will hit profits by up to £10 million a year. The company also denies that the strong pound will take a toll, saying that only 10 per cent of output goes for export.

Currency factors also hit **British Steel**, down a further 3½p at 137¾p.

However, Andy Chambers, of Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull, the broker, said he did not believe that either the pension fund issue or the strength of sterling would make a major impact on earnings. He said that falls of 10 per cent in share prices on the back of a 2 per cent dilution in earnings was ridiculous.

Cable & Wireless touched 590p in early trading on the back of some bullish comments overnight in Hongkong by Dick Brown, chief executive, relating to the company's tie-up with China Telecom. However, the shares later closed 14½p down at 573½p as Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, downgraded its profits forecast. It has cut its estimate for the current year from £1.46 billion to £1.4 billion.

A profits warning left **PGA European Tour Courses** nursing a fall of 8½p at 51½p. The golf course operator had said that the strong pound and a "variable performance" would leave full-year profits "materially below" expectations. Sean Kelly, managing director, has left and the company take a hit on this, too. His departure coincides with the appointment of Richard Thompson as chairman and Ken Schofield, tour director of the European PGA, and Ian Todd, managing director of IMG Europe, as non-executive directors.

Another company to feel the ill-effects of a strong pound is **Hornby**, down 15½p at 223p after reporting a drop in pre-tax profits last year from £4.89 million to £2.65 million. The group said there were few signs of the retail boom that is being reported elsewhere.

Mackie International returned from suspension at 22p after its rights issue and restructuring, having been frozen at 113p. It eventually closed at 28p. That compares with the original rights price of 20p.

Shares in **Life Numbers** were suspended at 9¼p pending the reverse takeover by XL Communications. The deal values XL at £5.63 million.

☐ **GILT EDGED:** There was a further steep flattening of the yield curve as the bond market went some way to clawing back this week's losses. The short end of the market remains overshadowed by the prospect of a further rise in interest rates when the Bank of England economic committee meets next week, but there was demand for issues over eight years.

Demand for index-linked issues was such that the Bank of England was able to offer further tranches consisting of £150 million of Treasury Index-Linked 2½ per cent 2011 and £150 million of Treasury Index-Linked 2½ per cent 2020. Brokers reported that supplies of the latter were quickly sold.

In futures, the September series of the Long Gilt finished £⁹⁄₃₂ better, at £114¾, with 41,000 contracts completed.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on £²⁵⁄₃₂, at £110¹³⁄₁₆, while, in shorts, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a tick better at £102⁹⁄₁₆.

☐ Wall Street was closed.

Coats Viyella finished 10p lower at a new low of 106½p. NatWest Securities, the broker, says the strong pound makes textile companies uncompetitive against overseas suppliers. Now the abolition of the tax credit on dividends may force companies such as Coats to review its payout policy.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
Severn Trent	844p	+79½p	Handing back £134m
Bridon	137½p	+36¾p	FKI bid approach
National Power	549½p	+23½p	Buying for dividend
NatWest Bank	887½p	+77½p	Speculative buying
Thomas Potts	7¾p	-4¼p	Abandons Coalite bid
IOC International	81½p	-49p	Warning of losses
PGA European Tour	51½p	-62p	Profits warning
Amersham Int	£18.15	+225½p	Nycomed merger
British Telecom	501½p	+52½p	Windfall tax exposure

MAJOR INDICES

New York:

Dow Jones	Closed
S&P Composite	—

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	19968.00 (-153.41)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	14822.97 (-232.77)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	907.19 (+10.09)

Sydney:

AO	2733.4 (-9.5)

Frankfurt:

DAX	3942.53 (+55.14)

Singapore:

Straits	1985.94 (+23.54)

Brussels:

General	14008.33 (-63.77)

Paris:

CAC-40	2934.48 (-2.50)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	1194.10 (+6.50)

London:

FT 30	3050.5 (-31.5)
FTSE 100	4812.8 (-18.9)
FTSE 250	4453.0 (-22.2)
FTSE 350	2311.3 (-9.6)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2618.41 (+24.77)
FTSE All-Share	2260.61 (-8.75)
FTSE Non Financials	2273.31 (-10.84)
FTSE Fixed Interest	124.27 (+0.52)
FTSE Govt Secs	97.27 (-0.31)
Bargains	59032
SEAQ Volume	910.2m
US$	1.6875 (+0.0035)
German Mark	2.9616 (+0.0165)
Exchange Index	104.0 (+0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4882
£:SDR	1.1960
RPI	156.9 May (2.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	156.3 May (2.5%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AIT	150½	...
Ashtenne	126½	+ 1
Aston Villa	842½	+ 2½
Caradon B	98½	...
European Mining	24½	...
Grosmont Hldgs	3¼	...
Grosmont Hldgs Wrts	1	...
Heart of Midlothian	110½	...
Highland Timber	124½	...
Integrated As Mgt	125	...
Longbridge Intl	117½	...
Norwich Union (290)	332	- ½
Powderject Pharms	202½	+ 2½
Primesight	140½	...
Reabourne Merlin	110½	...
Royalblue Group	211	+ 1½
SBS Group	112½	...
SGB Group	156	+ ½
Versalite Group	3½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Benchmark Gp n/p	16½	+ 1
Century Inns n/p (155)	2	...
Dragon Oil n/p (2)	1¼	...
Mackie Intl n/p (20)	8	...
Marylebone Warwick	¼	...
Millwall Hldgs n/p (1)	¼	...
Waterfall Hldgs n/p	5½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Prism Rail	335p (+35p)
Allied Carpets	242½p (+18p)
AEA Tech	435p (+20p)
BT	501½p (+22p)
Gearhouse Gp	320½p (+12p)
Flextech	703½p (+21p)
Andrew Sykes	580p (+10p)

FALLS:

Denby Gp	158p (-16½p)
Psion	347½p (-28p)
Hornby	223p (-15½p)
Thistle Hotels	149p (-10p)
Legal & Gen	439p (-28p)
LucasVarity	192p (-10½p)
Oxford Inst	316p (-16½p)
DCS Gp	236½p (-11p)
GKN	920p (-39p)
Tesco	394p (-12½p)

Closing Prices Page 40

TEMPUS

The price of control

IT IS scarcely surprising that shareholders in Argent are hopping mad. Property developers rely on the deal-making skills of their top management but after only three years on the market, the Freeman brothers who run Argent have decided they have had enough of public companies. Their departure in a year's time risks changing the whole nature of Argent. As a consequence, control of this highly regarded company is being sold to the BT pension fund for only 375p a share, one sixth below yesterday morning's opening price.

Shareholders are faced with the choice of accepting this disappointing offer, or continuing to hold shares in a company where their views will count for little. BT funds will end up owning at least 40 per cent of Argent and probably much more. Instead of an entrepreneurially managed developer, Argent will be run according to the dictates of BT's mature (and therefore security-minded) pension fund. The undoubted quality of the assets, which include the Brindleyplace complex in central Birmingham, is little consolation when investors do not know who will be running Argent in two years time. No wonder the board has held back from advising shareholders on what action they should take.

The institutions may prevail upon Hermes, the BT pension fund manager, to make a better offer — though looking back to Hermes's tilt at Greycoat a few years ago, this is unlikely to be successful. Shareholders may eventually have to accept that even 375p is well above the 255p at which the company floated in May 1994. Still, one suspects we have not heard the last of this one.

Thorn

THORN's latest provision, this time to pay for quitting the domestic rental business in much of continental Europe, serves to underline the extent to which the company is on the defensive.

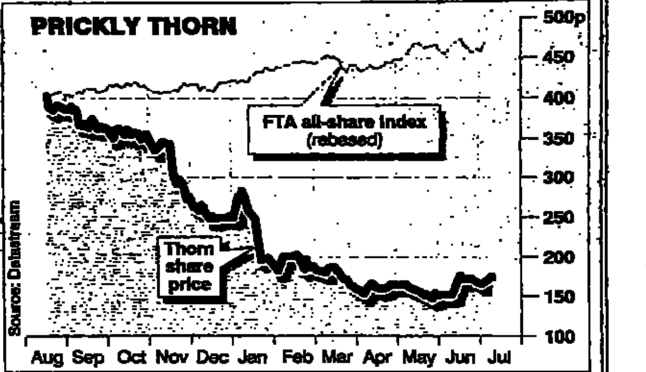
Thorn has already shut 90 of its Radio Rentals shops in the UK. A few weeks ago, it set aside £17.1 million to cover the potential cost of litigation in Minnesota, just one of the states where it faces legal challenges. For the European closures, it has set aside £30 million.

In this case, the cash impact of the provision will probably be more than offset by operating cash flow during the two to three year withdrawal period.

But, while closing these operations looks the right thing to do, it does not help to solve the basic Thorn problems. Renting televisions is a declining business. Renting furniture in branches of Radio Rentals did not work and has been stopped. The more downmarket Crazy George's is the format Mike Metcalf, Thorn's ever-optimistic chief executive, believes in. But that met resistance in France, where people found the notion of paying high premiums to rent everyday items objectionable. Those objections could appear elsewhere.

The problems are now well-documented, but the management has failed to come up with a new strategy. In the absence of any takeover interest there is nothing to recommend the shares, cheap as they may appear.

PRICKLY THORN



Mirror Group

THE Mirror Group has become the victim of its own success.

David Montgomery, who arrived when the company was on the verge of collapse in 1992, has been a masterful manager and cost cutter and squeezing the margins for an extra point or two would be like squeezing blood from a stone.

Expanding the business has also become difficult. The Mirror already controls 23 per cent of the national newspaper market and would have trouble buying more under the current regulations. The high market share also prevents it from controlling an ITV company.

So what are Montgomery's options? He is, largely by necessity, pushing the edges. There is a small cable-TV company and, as of yesterday, an agreement to buy Midland Indendent Newspapers, the sixth largest regional player. There is an admirable effort to expand in cable programming, but the reality is the Mirror does not have a lot to offer in this department.

You cannot blame Montgomery for trying. He is simply looking for a way to underwrite the Mirror's next stage of growth. But none of the deals so far is big enough to propel the group forward. Newspapers, meanwhile, are in shallow but long-term decline and Mirror shares are underperforming the market. Do not be surprised if Montgomery eventually becomes exasperated and puts the company on the auction block.

Woolwich

WHILE its fellow societies came to the market during a period of relative stability, Woolwich is floating after a week in which the FTSE 100 index gave sharewatchers vertigo.

Analysts expect the new bank's opening price to hit the 300p mark, with estimates as high as 325p a share. The latter price includes a bid premium of as much as 100p a share, which Woolwich's many suitors will baulk at paying.

Prudential was among the predators who had hoped to save a bit of money by concluding a friendly deal with Woolwich before conversion.

The paper value of the average Woolwich windfall has almost doubled in six months in a market that is looking increasingly overheated and after a strong run in the financial sector.

It could therefore be some time before speculative buyers of the shares see any takeover activity. The society's core business are likely to yield steady but unspectacular growth. It has the bulk of its business in the South East of England, where the recovery in the housing market has been strongest, but it still needs to diversify in order to survive in an overcrowded sector.

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Jul	1024-1017	Sep	1110 BID
Sep	1039-1038	Dec	1123-1122
Dec	1056-1055	Mar	1133-1132
Mar	1074 SLR	May	unq
May	1096-1096		
Jul	1102 SLR		Volume: 1028

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jul	1785-1775	Mar	1725-1705
Sep	1800-1792	May	unq
Nov	1780-1775	Jul	...
Jan	1750-1740		Volume: 2006

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	316.4-15.5
Spot: 325.5		May	316.4-13.5
Aug	310.3-10.0	Aug	315.4-12.5
Oct	316.0-15.5	Oct	309.4-06.0
Dec	314.9-14.5		Volume: 441

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on July 3

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	91.90	95.42	117.45
(+/-)	-0.73	-2.03	+1.28
Eng/Wales:	91.86	117.65	99.60
(+/-)	-0.65	+1.37	+4.40
(%)	+1.0	+15.0	-7.0
Scotland:	84.07	115.12	102.29
(+/-)	-11.86	+0.22	+5.65
(%)	+21.0	+15.0	-15.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.10	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Aug)	18.05	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Sep)	18.20	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	unq	—
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	—	—

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	191 (-1)	193 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	164 (-2)	165 (-2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	82 (n/c)	84 (n/c)
Naphtha	173 (-1)	174 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jul	162.00 BID	Oct	168.00-68.25
Aug	163.50 BID	Nov	170.00-70.50
Sep	166.00 SLR		Vol: 10007

BRENT (6.00pm)

Aug	18.07-18.08	Nov	18.50-18.55
Sep	18.22 BID	Dec	18.60 BID
Oct	18.40 BID		Vol: 12026

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jul	80.25	Sep	78.00
Sep	81.50	Nov	80.50
Nov	83.50	Jan	82.50
Jan	85.50	Mar	84.50
Mar	87.50	May	85.65
Volume: 342		Volume: 82	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	38.0
Mar	...	59.0
Apr	70.0	64.0
		Volume: 42

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kg)

Aug 60.75-61.25

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jul 97	1315	1300	1300
Aug 97	1250	1245	1240
Sep 97	1295	1285	1285
Oct 97	1420	1405	1405

Vol: 183 lots Open Interest: 3025

Index 1343 +6

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2557.0-2558.0	2402.0-2403.0	996700
Lead ($/tonne)	644.0-644.50	655.00-656.00	185775
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1466.5-1467.5	1475.0-1475.5	993850
Tin ($/tonne)	5480.0-5490.0	5530.0-5535.0	7215
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1575.0-1575.5	1590.0-1590.5	1406825
Nickel ($/tonne)	6820.0-6825.0	6915.0-6916.0	53406

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
Series		Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Alld Dom	420	19½	37	44	7½	13½	23
(*439)	460	1½	19	24½	26½	34½	45
ASDA	130	4	8½	12	1½	6	8
(*132½)	140	0½	4½	7½	6	12	13½
Boots	700	49½	61½	73	1	11	19½
(*744)	750	7	31	45	18	30	34
Br Airways	650	33	58½	71	0½	19½	27½
(*680)	700	5½	31½	44	25	38	40½
BP	750	33	53½	70½	2½	20	29½
(*779)	800	5½	29½	44	24	44	51
Br Steel	130	8	14	17	1	4	6
(*137)	140	2	10½	12	5	8½	11
C & W	550	28	52	66½	6	18½	27
(*573½)	600	3	29½	41½	32	43½	52
CU	650	34½	66½	80½	4	35½	41½
(*680)	700	6	41½	55½	26½	61½	66½
ICI	750	50½	66½	85	2	16½	21½
(*798½)	800	12½	36	55½	10½	36½	42
Land Sec	900	20	47½	62	7	23½	29½
(*910)	950	3	27½	37½	40	51	59½
M & S	500	18	35	44½	3	12½	16½
(*515)	550	0½	11½	21½	38	39½	43½
Nat West	850	40	80½	117½	14½	50½	68½
(*884)	900	22	64½	93½	67½	76	90½
Safeway plc	360	8½	21	33	5	12½	19
(*363½)	390	0½	10	19½	26½	30½	35½
Sainsbury	360	18	30½	37½	1½	9	14½
(*376)	390	2	14½	22½	15½	23½	29
Shell	433	12	25½	36	5	17	21
(*439½)	450	4½	17½	27½	14	29½	29
SmKl Bch	1150	46	91½	121	8½	37½	55½
(*1180½)	1200	17	68½	94½	30	61	78½
Storehse	300	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	2000	54½	121	172	22½	73	93½
(*2030½)	2100	14	75½	126	78½	125½	144
Series		Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAT Ind	550	16	39	55	11	35½	43
(*555)	600	2	19	35	46	67	73½
Vodafone	300	10½	24	32½	4	13	18
(*306)	330	1	11	19½	24½	30	34½
Series		Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Grnd Met	600	29	47½	54	17	28	28
(*614)	650	11½	25½	30½	46½	56	55
Ladbroke	240	12	18	23½	6½	12½	13½
(*245½)	260	4½	10	14½	18½	24	25
Utd Bisc	200	15	19	27½	4	8	9½
(*208)	220	6	10	14½	14½	19½	20

		Calls			Puts		
Series		Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAA	550	32½	48	60	1	10½	16
(*580½)	600	2½	19½	32½	21	32½	38
Thames W	700	38	59½	61	10½	24	33½
(*737½)	750	7	28½	37½	40	53½	60
Series		Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
BTR	190	19½	22	27	3	8½	9½
(*196)	200	7	11½	16½	9½	17½	18½
Br Aero	1300	52½	86	114	31½	59½	62½
(*1312½)	1350	29½	63½	87	58½	78½	86½
Br Telecm	460	43	48	52½	5½	12½	16
(*497½)	500	15½	24½	30	23	31½	34½
Cadbury	500	50½	59	70½	1½	9	12½
(*544½)	550	16	28½	40	16½	26½	31
Guinness	600	31½	46½	56½	13	25½	31½
(*613)	650	9½	23	32½	41½	52	58
GEC	360	23	31	36½	6½	12½	15½
(*380)	390	7	15½	21½	22½	27½	30½
Hanson	280	17	25	31	6½	13	16
(*290½)	300	7	15½	21½	14½	24	26½
LASMO	260	14	24	30	7½	11½	14½
(*265½)	280	6	14½	20½	17½	22	25
LucasVarity	180	16	21½	26	3	6½	7½
(*192½)	200	5½	10½	15½	11½	15	16½
Pilkingtn	120	10	—	—	3½	—	—
(*124½)	130	5	—	—	8½	—	—
Prudential	600	41½	58½	73½	15½	30	37½
(*624)	650	20½	34½	49	41	56	57½
Redland	300	23	34	39	4½	11½	13
(*316½)	330	7	18½	24½	19	26½	28
R-Royce	220	16	22½	27½	5	10½	12
(*228)	240	7	13	18	15½	20½	22½
Tesco	390	17	26	35	10½	18	22
(*393½)	420	5½	13	21½	29½	35	38½
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4808)

	4700	4750	4800	4850	4900	4950
Calls						
Jul	140½	92	63½	40	22½	11½
Aug	170½	139½	109½	84½	63	45½
Sep	209	178½	148½	122½	100½	79½
Oct	245	214½	184½	156½	134½	113½
Dec	308	—	246	—	189	—
Puts						
Jul	31½	45½	67½	95	127	165½
Aug	69½	88	109	132	161	194½
Sep	89½	109	129	153½	182	211½
Oct	105½	125	145	168	197	227½
Dec	129	—	166	—	214	—

		Calls			Puts		
Series		Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Abby Nat	850	46½	78½	105½	4½	35	48
(*889)	900	17½	52	80	24	59	72
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1200	55	104	147½	15	56½	79
(*1238½)	1250	26½	79	118½	36½	81½	101
Natl Pwr	500	51	66	74	1	9	12½
(*549½)	550	12½	34	42½	14	26	31½
Series		Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Glaxo Well	1300	47	86	122	9½	52½	65
(*1331½)	1350	19½	60	95	32	76½	88½
HSBC	1900	79½	145	204½	16½	73½	105
(*1955)	2000	25	94½	153	64	123	153½
Reuter	600	18	40½	57½	10	26½	33½
(*603)	650	1	19½	35½	48	56	62
Royal & Sun	460	12	34½	41	8	24½	32½
(*462½)	500	1½	18	24	37½	48½	55½
Series		Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Blue Circ	420	15½	26	35½	11½	20½	25
(*420)	460	2½	11½	18½	40	46	49
Series		Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Kingfshr	650	27½	45½	57½	15	26½	32½
(*656)	700	8½	23½	34½	46½	54	60
Series		Jun			Jun		
Br Gas	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	260	—	—	—	—	—	—
Series		Sep	Dec	Mar	Sep	Dec	Mar
Dixons	460	30½	43½	52½	15	22	27½
(*475½)	500	13	25	34	37	43½	48½
EMI Group	1100	64	98	117	49	64	76½
(*1121)	1150	43	75	92½	75½	90½	102½
Tarmac	110	11½	13	15½	2½	5	6½
(*119)	120	5	8	10½	7	10	11½
Hillsdwn	160	8½	—	—	5½	—	—
(*161)	180	1½	—	—	19½	—	—
Lonrho	130	6½	9½	12½	6½	8½	10½
(*130)	140	3½	6	8½	13½	14½	16½
Sears	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	260	12	17	21½	10½	14	16
(*264)	280	4	9	13½	24	27	28½
Lloyds TSB	650	54½	75½	87½	28½	34	46
(*677½)	700	30½	52	62	53	59	70
Scot Pwr	390	33	37½	43	11½	15	22
(*415½)	420	15	21½	29	26½	30	34
Unilever	1700	103½	136½	169	23½	37	48½
(*1761½)	1800	47	78½	112½	66½	80½	92½

July 4, 1997 Tot: 51518 Call: 30807 Put: 20621 FTSE Call: 6450 Put: 7687
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt Previous open interest 163131	Sep 97	114-11	114-30	114-10	114-24	41081
	Dec 97	114-05	114-10	114-05	114-11	400
German Govt Bond (Bund) Previous open interest 278650	Sep 97	102.39	102.52	102.30	102.42	79976
	Dec 97	101.44	101.55	101.44	101.49	3036
Italian Govt Bond (BTP) Previous open interest 103951	Sep 97	135.40	135.84	135.35	135.58	23457
	Dec 97				107.77	0
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 97	124.97	125.14	124.97	125.13	2048
	Dec 97	124.29	124.48	124.29	124.48510	
Three Mth Sterling	Sep 97	92.82	92.86	92.82	92.84	6489
	Dec 97	92.62	92.66	92.61	92.64	10582
Previous open interest 526374	Mar 98	92.53	92.59	92.53	92.56	6684
Three Mth Euromark Previous open interest 1481449	Sep 97	96.84	96.85	96.84	96.84	6788
	Dec 97	96.77	96.78	96.77	96.77	19866
Three Mth Eurolira Previous open interest 337045	Sep 97	93.50	93.51	93.48	93.49	6928
	Dec 97	93.90	93.92	93.87	93.89	3909
Three Mth Euroyen	Dec 97	99.21	99.21	99.20	99.20	60
	Mar 98				99.03	0
Three Mth Euroswiss Previous open interest 132250	Sep 97	98.50	98.51	98.47	98.48	7893
	Dec 97	98.35	98.35	98.32	98.33	2537
Three Mth ECU Previous open interest 30981	Sep 97	95.85	95.85	95.84	95.84	162
	Dec 97	95.84	95.84	95.83	95.83	193
FTSE 100 Previous open interest 69246	Sep 97	4866.0	4908.0	4819.0	4823.0	10042
	Dec 97	4901.0	4900.0	4900.0	4888.5	21

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6½ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 3 Week fixed: 6⁹⁄₁₆

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⁷⁄₁₆; 3 mth 6½. Sell: 2 mth 6⁵⁄₁₆; 3 mth: 6¹¹⁄₃₂.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⁹⁄₁₆-6⁷⁄₁₆	6⁷⁄₁₆-6⁵⁄₁₆	6⁵⁄₁₆-6²¹⁄₃₂	7⅛-7⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	7⅛-6¹⁵⁄₁₆	7⅜-7¼	7¹¹⁄₁₆-7⁹⁄₁₆
Interbank:	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	7⅛-6¹⁵⁄₁₆	7⅜-7¼	7¹¹⁄₁₆-7⁹⁄₁₆

Overnight: open 6⅞, close 3.

Local Authority Deps:	6⅝	n/a	6¹⁵⁄₁₆	7¼	7½
Sterling CDs:	6⅝-6⁹⁄₁₆	6¾-6¹¹⁄₁₆	6¹⁵⁄₁₆-6⅞	7⁵⁄₁₆-7¼	7½-7⁷⁄₁₆
Dollar CDs:	5.58	n/a	5.64	5.72	5.91
Building Society CDs:	6⅝-6½	6¾-6⅝	7-6⅞	7⅜-7¼	7⁹⁄₁₆-7½

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £910m allotted: £200m; Bids: £98.34% received: 45%; Last week: £98.395% received: 34%; Avge rate: £6.5963% last wk £6.4200%; Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5½	5²¹⁄₃₂-⁹⁄₁₆	5¾-5⅝	5²⁹⁄₃₂-¹³⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3¼-2¹⁵⁄₁₆	3⅛-2⅞
French Franc:	3⁵⁄₁₆-3³⁄₁₆	3⁵⁄₁₆-3³⁄₁₆	3⅜-3¼	3½-3⅜	3⅛-2⅞
Swiss Franc:	1⁹⁄₁₆-1⁷⁄₁₆	1⁹⁄₁₆-1⁷⁄₁₆	1⁹⁄₁₆-1⁷⁄₁₆	1⅝-1½	1½-¼
Yen:	⅝-⁷⁄₁₆	⅝-½	⅝-½	⅝-½	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $322.75-323.25 Close: $324.00-324.50 High: $325.30-325.80 Low: $322.75-323.25 AM: $325.20 PM: $324.45

Krugerrand: $323.50-325.50 (£190.75-193.75)

Platinum: $423.00 (£250.88) **Silver:** $4.57 (£2.705) **Palladium:** $191.00 (£113.28)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for July 4	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.3165-3.3375	3.3299-3.3328	1⅛-1pr	3⅛-3pr
Brussels	60.780-61.200	61.026-61.129	21-16pr	59-52pr
Copenhagen	11.221-11.274	11.264-11.274	⅜-⅛pr	1-⅝pr
Dublin	1.1071-1.1152	1.1100-1.1121	n/a	n/a
Frankfurt	2.9454-2.9613	2.9587-2.9613	⅞-¾pr	2⅜-2¼pr
Lisbon	297.27-299.13	298.46-298.81	⅝-⅛pr	1-¾pr
Madrid	248.79-250.43	250.07-250.27	36-26pr	114-96pr
Milan	2867.5-2887.9	2879.0-2881.5	6-10ds	21-2pr
Montreal	2.3130-2.3217	2.3179-2.3201	0.72-0.66pr	1.42-1.34pr
New York	1.6842-1.6890	1.6872-1.6882	0.175-0.155pr	0.533-0.502pr
Oslo	12.280-12.366	12.336-12.352	⅜-⅛pr	1-⅝pr
Paris	9.9290-9.9950	9.9781-9.9849	3⅛-2⅞pr	9⅛-8⅞pr
Stockholm	12.968-13.077	13.027-13.047	⅝-⅛pr	⅝-⅛pr
Tokyo	190.64-192.15	191.68-191.89	1⅛-1pr	3⅛-3pr
Vienna	20.722-20.862	20.818-20.831	⅞-⅝pr	2-1⅝pr
Zurich	2.4660-2.4812	2.4734-2.4766	1⅛-1pr	3⅜-3⅛pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3342-1.3360
Austria	12.33-12.34
Belgium (Com)	36.17-36.21
Canada	1.3740-1.3745
Denmark	6.6790-6.6810
France	5.9080-5.9100
Germany	1.7533-1.7538
Hong Kong	7.7415-7.7425
Ireland	1.5160-1.5180
Italy	1709.00-1709.30
Japan	113.69-113.79
Malaysia	2.5242-2.5252
Netherlands	1.9750-1.9755
Norway	1.3188-7.3238
Portugal	176.81-176.86
Singapore	1.4357-1.4367
Spain	148.26-148.29
Sweden	7.7259-7.7334
Switzerland	1.4680-1.4690

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6884-1.6911
Australia dollar	2.2519-2.2547
Bahrain dinar	0.6300-0.6420
Brazil real*	1.8173-1.8219
China yuan	13.834-14.134
Cyprus pound	0.8655-0.8755
Finland markka	8.7350-8.8510
Greece drachma	461.75-468.75
Hong Kong dollar	13.0607-13.0701
India rupee	59.91-60.87
Indonesia rupiah	4067.0-4135.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.9050-0.5150
Malaysia ringgit	4.2586-4.2628
New Zealand dollar	2.4894-2.4928
Pakistan rupee	67.75 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0800-6.2040
Singapore dollar	2.4227-2.4258
S Africa rand (com)	7.5850-7.6870
U A E dirham	6.1350-6.2590

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	2,000	Ladbroke	6,200
ASDA Gp	6,400	Land Secs	2,300
Abbey Ntl	2,600	Legal & Gn	6,300
Allnce & Leic	5,700	Lloyds TSB	6,900
Allied Dom	2,300	LucasVarity	10,500
AB Foods	344	Marks Spr	7,300
BAA	7,200	Mercury Ast	748
BAT Inds	3,400	NatWst Bk	5,700
BG	8,700	Nat Grid	7,800
BOC	714	Nat Power	4,000
BP	5,000	Next	1,700
BSkyB	3,300	Orange	1,600
BTR	13,500	P & O	987
BT	21,500	Pearson	1,800
Bk of Scot	3,900	PowerGen	3,200
Barclays	5,100	Prudential	3,400
Bass	2,100	RMC	235
Blue Circle	1,900	Railtrack	2,600
Boots	3,800	Rank Group	4,200
BAe	2,000	Reckitt Col	645
BA	2,900	Reed Intl	2,900
British Land	966	Rentokil	1,800
Brit Steel	14,400	Reuters	4,000
Burmah Cstl	447	Rio Tinto	2,600
Cable Wire	3,100	Rolls Royce	7,300
Cadbury	3,000	Royal & Sun	1,600
Carlton Cms	2,300	Royal Bk Sct	1,500
Centrica	12,200	Safeway	5,400
Cm Union	1,400	Sainsbury	4,000
Dixons	1,900	Schroders	1,700
EMI	665	Scot & New	3,100
Energy Gp	879	Scot Power	2,600
Enterpr Oil	1,500	Svrn Trent	10,100
GKN	1,300	Shell Trans	31,700
GRE	1,100	Siebe	5,100
GUS	2,300	SmKl Bch	4,100
Gen Acc	401	Smiths Inds	1,200
Gen Elec	12,900	Std Chartd	2,100
Glaxo Well	4,300	TI Gp	2,200
Granada	5,700	Tate & Lyle	1,900
Grand Met	3,300	Tesco	7,700
Guinness	852	Thames W	4,400
HSBC	3,500	Tomkins	3,300
Halifax	8,500	Unilever	3,900
Hanson	2,100	Utd Utilities	1,100
Hays	861	Utd News	255
ICI	7,200	Vodafone	10,200
Imp Tob	2,900	Whitbread	811
Kingfisher	2,800	Wolseley	716
LASMO	2,100	Zeneca	997

WALL STREET

	Jul 3 close	Jul 2 close		Jul 3 close	Jul 2 close		Jul 3 close	Jul 2 close
AMP Inc	43¼	43⅜	Edison Int	25	24½	Oryx Energy Co	21¼	21⅞
AMR Corp	96¼	95¾	Elect Data Sys	42⅝	42¼	Owens Corning	43¼	43¼
AT & T	36	36	Emerson Elec	55¼	54¼	PPG Industries	59⅞	58⅞
Abbott Labs	68⅞	66¾	Engelhard Corp	21⅞	21¼	PMI Group	62⅞	62¼
Advanced Micro	35⅞	35⅜	Enron Corp	41⅞	41½	PNC Bank	44¼	43⅞
Aetna Life	105⅝	103⅝	Entergy	27¼	27⅜	PP&L Res	20⅜	20
Ahmanson (HF)	45⅝	45¼	Ethyl Corp	9¼	9¼	Paccar Inc	50	48⅞
Air Prod & Chem	84⅞	84¼	Exxon	64¼	63⅜	Pacificorp	22½	22⅜
AirTouch Comm	29⅜	28½	FMC Corp	80½	80½	Pac Enterprises	34⅞	33½
Albertson's	37⅞	37⅜	FPL Group	47	46⅜	Pall Corp	23	23⅜
Alcan Alumnm	34⅞	34¾	Federal Express	59¼	58¼	Parker Hannifin	59⅞	60⅛
Allied Signal	87¾	86¼	Fifth Third Banc	87⅛	85¼	Peco Energy	21½	21⅞
Alum Co of Am	77	78¾	First Bk Sys	90⅜	88⅜	Penney (JC)	54½	53¼
Amerada Hess	56¼	56½	Fleet Finl Grp	66	64½	Pennzoil	73½	74⅜
Amer El Power	42⅝	42¼	Fluor Corp	54⅞	55⅜	Pepsico	38⅞	38
Amer Express	82¼	76¾	Ford Motor	40	39⅛	Pfizer	63¼	62¼
Amer Genl Corp	49⅜	48⅜	Fortune Brands	36⅞	36¼	Pharm & Upjhn	37⅜	36
Amer Home Pr	80⅜	78⅞	Franklin Res	75½	74⅛	Phelps Dodge	84⅜	85½
Amer Intl	154⅜	151⅞	GTE Corp	45⅞	44¼	Philip Morris	45½	44⅜
Amer Stores	51¼	51½	Gannett	106	103¼	Phillips Pet	46	45¼
Amer Standard	45⅜	45⅛	Gap Inc Del	39½	39⅛	Pitney Bowes	72⅛	73
Ameritech	69¼	68¾	Gen Dynamics	75½	74⅞	Polaroid	58¼	59⅛
Amgen	58½	57⅜	Gen Electric	69½	67⅜	Procter & Gmbl	144¼	141⅞
Amoco	91⅞	90¼	Gen Mills	68½	65¼	Providian	32⅜	31⅛
Andrew Corp	30½	28⅞	Gen Motors	56⅞	56⅞	Pub Serv E & G	25½	25¼
Anheuser-Busch	43⅞	42⅞	Gen Reinsurance	190	188	Quaker Oats	45⅞	45½
Apple Computer	13⅞	13¾	Gen Signal	46½	45⅜	Ralston Purina	84⅛	83½
Archer Daniels	23¾	23⅝	Genuine Parts	35½	35	Raychem Corp	74⅞	74½
Armco	4⅛	4	Georgia Pac	86½	86½	Raytheon	53¼	53
Armstrng Wrld	73⅞	73¼	Gillette	98¼	95⅞	Reebok Intl	47¼	46⅜
Asarco	31	31⅛	Glaxo Wellc ADR	44⅞	43⅜	Reynolds Metals	70⅞	71¼
Atl Richfield	73½	72¼	Goodrich (BF)	43⅞	43⅞	Rockwell Intl	59⅞	57⅜
Atmel Corp	27⅛	27	Goodyear Tire	63½	62¼	Rohm & Haas	88⅛	88½
Auto Data Pro	48	47¼	Grt Atl Pac Tea	27⅛	26½	Royal Dutch	57⅛	55¼
Avery Dennison	41½	40⅜	Halliburton	83½	84	Rubbermaid	30⅛	30⅜
Avon Products	75	74⅞	Harcourt General	48⅞	48⅞	SBC Comms	61½	60⅞
Baker Hughes	41⅞	41⅞	Heinz (HJ)	45¼	45¼	Safeco Corp	47¼	46¼
Baltim Gas & El	27⅜	27⅜	Hercules	49	49⅞	St Paul's Cos	80¼	78¼
Banc One	49⅞	49⅜	Hershey Foods	57⅜	56⅞	Salomon Inc	57½	56¼
BankAmerica	68⅞	68¼	Hewlett Packard	56⅛	55⅜	Sara Lee Corp	43⅛	43⅛
Bank of NY	47¼	46¼	Hilton Hotels	27	27⅜	Schering Plough	49⅛	49¼
Bankers Tr NY	92½	90¼	Home Depot	68⅞	67¼	Schlumberger	134⅛	130¼
Barnett Banks	55⅜	54⅜	Homestake Mng	13	13⅛	Seagram	40⅞	40⅞
Bausch & Lomb	47¼	47	Honeywell	80	79	Sears Roebuck	55	54¼
Baxter Intl	58⅞	57½	Household Intl	119⅞	118⅞	Shell Trans	44¼	43⅛
Becton Dickson	55⅜	53⅞	Houston Inds	21½	21⅛	Sherwin Wlms	32⅛	31¼
Bell Atlantic	75⅜	74⅞	Humana	23	23⅛	Silicon Graphics	16⅞	16⅜
BellSouth	47⅞	47½	ITT Corp	62¼	62¼	Snap-On-Tools	40½	39¼
Black & Decker	38¼	39½	Ikon Office	25⅛	25¼	Southern Co	22⅛	21⅞
Block (H&R)	32½	33	Illinois Tool	52⅛	52	Southtrust	42¼	41¼
Boeing	55⅜	54⅞	Illinova	22½	22¼	Sprint Corp	52⅜	51⅛
Boise Cascade	36	36⅛	INCO	29⅜	30½	Stanley Works	42⅞	43⅞
Boston Scien	64½	60¼	Ingersoll Rand	62¼	61⅞	Sun Company	32¼	31⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	80⅞	80⅜	Inland Steel	27¼	26½	Sun Microsys	37½	37¼
Browning Ferris	39½	38	Intel Corp	144⅞	143	Suntrust	58⅜	56⅜
Brunswick	31¼	31⅛	IBM	94⅞	93⅜	Supervalu	37½	37¼
Burlington Nthn	91¼	92¼	Intl Flav & Fr	50⅜	50⅞	Sysco Corp	37¼	37¼
CMS Energy Corp	36¼	35¾	Intl Paper	50⅜	50½	TRW Inc	59⅜	59¼
CPC Intl	95¼	93¾	James River Va	37⅞	37⅛	TCC Inds	2½	2½
CSX	56⅝	56⅜	Jhnsn & Jhnsn	64½	63⅜	TIG Hldgs	31¼	31¼
Campbell Soup	48½	47⅜	Kellogg	91	87	Tandem Comp	22¼	21½
Carolina Pwr	36¼	36¾	Kerr-McGee	65	65½	Tandy Corp	56½	56¼
Case Corp	65⅜	66	Kimberly-Clark	53½	52½	Temple Inland	57	57⅞
Caterpillar	109⅞	107¼	Kmart	11⅞	12	Tenet Healthcare	29¼	29¼
Central & SW	22⅛	21½	Knight-Ridder	49½	49⅛	Tenneco	44½	44¼
Champion Intl	57	56½	Lilly (Eli)	111¼	109⅞	Texaco	111⅜	109⅞
Chase Manhat	103½	102¾	Limited Inc	20⅛	20⅛	Texas Inst	88	88
Chevron Corp	75½	75⅜	Lincoln Nat	66⅛	64½	Texas Utilities	35½	35⅜
Chrysler	33½	33¾	Litton	49¼	49½	Textron	68⅞	67¼
Chubb Corp	68⅞	68	Liz Claiborne	48⅞	48¼	Thermo Elect	33¼	33
Cigna Corp	186⅞	183⅞	Lockheed Martin	99	104	Time Warner	47¼	47⅜
Citicorp	129¾	128½	Louisiana Pac	20⅞	20½	Times-Mirror A	58⅜	57⅞
Clorox	128¼	128⅞	MCI Comm	42½	40	Timken	35⅜	35
Coastal Corp	56⅜	55⅜	Manpower Inc	46⅛	46½	Torchmark	73⅞	72¼
Coca Cola	70¾	70⅜	Marriott Intl	68½	64⅞	Toys R Us	34⅛	34¼
Coca Cola Ent	23	22½	Marsh & McLnn	74	73½	Transamerica	96⅛	94⅛
Colgate-Palm	66⅞	65⅞	Masco Corp	42⅜	41½	Travelers	66¼	66¼
Columbia Gas	69⅜	68¼	May Dept St	48⅞	47⅛	Tribune	49½	49
ColumbiaHCA	40⅜	39⅞	Maytag Corp	26½	26½	Tyco Int	75⅜	75⅞
Compaq Comp	108⅞	105¾	McDonalds	48⅛	48½	UST Inc	28¼	28¼
Comp Ass Intl	57¼	55⅝	McDonnell D	70⅜	70⅜	UAL	74⅛	73⅜
Conagra	65⅞	64½	McGraw Hill	61⅛	61⅛	US Inds	38¼	37¼
Cons Edison	29¼	29⅛	Mead Corp	63⅞	63½	US West Comm	38¼	38½
Cons Nat Gas	55⅞	55	Medtronic	89¼	89⅜	US West Media	21⅜	21½
Cooper Inds	52⅜	52½	Mellon Bk	47¼	46¼	USAirways Group	36⅜	35⅞
Corestates	56½	54⅞	Merck Inc	105⅛	104¼	USX Marathon	30½	30½
Corning Inc	56½	56½	Merrill Lynch	62⅜	61¼	Unicom	22½	22¼
C'wide Credit	32⅜	31½	Microsoft	129⅞	128½	Unilever NV	224¼	219
Crestar Finl	42⅛	41½	Minnesota Mine	101⅞	101	Union Camp	51⅞	51⅞
Crown Cork	54¼	54½	Mobil Corp	71½	71⅛	Union Carbide	49⅛	48¼
Dana Corp	38¼	38½	Monsanto	46½	45⅜	Union Pacific	70½	70
Dayton Hudson	55⅞	55	Morgan (JP)	110½	108⅞	Unisys Corp	7½	7½
Deere	56½	55⅞	Motorola Inc	80⅞	78⅞	USF&G Corp	24⅞	24⅛
Delta Air Lines	87½	87¼	Natl Semi	31⅛	30⅞	United Tech	85¼	84½
Deluxe Corp	35⅜	35½	Natl Service Ind	49⅞	48¼	Unocal Corp	39¼	39
Digital Equip	38⅛	38¼	Navistar Int	18½	18½	VF Corp	86¼	85⅞
Dillard Dept St	35½	35¼	NY Times A	53⅜	52½	Wal-Mart Stores	35⅛	34¼
Disney (Walt)	77⅜	76½	Newmont Mng	39½	39½	Warner-Lambert	133⅞	132
Dominion Res	37⅜	36⅜	Niag Mohawk	8⅝	8⅝	Waste Mngmt	33½	32¼
Donnelley (RR)	37⅞	37⅜	Nike B	58⅛	57¼	Wells Fargo	279	277¼
Dover Corp	63½	64½	NL Industries	14½	14¼	Westinghouse El	24½	24
Dow Chemical	88	87⅞	Noram Energy	15½	15⅜	Weyerhaeuser	52⅛	52½
Dow Jones	41½	40⅞	Nordstrom	49⅜	48¼	Whirlpool	54¼	54
Dresser	38⅜	38¼	Norfolk Sthrn	107⅛	106½	Whitman	25⅞	26
Duke Power	48½	48¼	Nthn State Pwr	52⅞	52⅜	Winn Dixie	37¼	37¼
Dun & Bradstreet	26½	26½	Norwest Corp	59⅞	56½	Witco Corp	39⅞	38¼
Du Pont	63½	62½	Nynex Corp	57⅞	57	Woolworth	25½	25⅜
Eastman Chem	63⅜	63¼	Occidental Pet	25⅞	25⅜	Wrigley (Wm) Jr	69⅛	68¼
Eastman Kodak	78⅞	77¼	Ohio Edison	22½	22½	Xerox	81	79⅞
Eaton Corp	87¼	86¼	Oracle	49¼	48½	Zenith Elect	11¼	11½

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BEAT THE RISE 31

A lucky buyer completes before the deadline

WEEKEND
MONEY

ISA FANS 32

Financial adviser and son of Pep

PERSONAL FINANCE NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Swift response to Chancellor's raid

Caroline Merrell reports on the immediate reaction of companies to the abolition of the dividend tax credit scheme

The *Chancellor's raid* on the £500 billion amassed by the nation in pensions was the most significant move in *his Budget. The abolition of* the dividend tax credit scheme, a Treasury subsidy to pension funds, will hit future investment returns, some estimate to the tune of £75 billion. The reaction to his attack on tax concessions was immediate and drastic.

Some companies moved immediately to downgrade pension arrangements for *their employees — switching* from schemes offering guaranteed benefits, based on a proportion of final salary to money-purchase schemes, where the size of the pension is linked directly to contributions made by the employer and the employee. In pensions jargon, they made the move from defined benefit arrangements to defined contribution *arrangements. Others are likely* to follow.

Unbeknown to the majority of those contributing to retirement schemes, pension scheme fund managers were able to claim back tax paid on *dividends earned by the* UK shares held by their funds. This tax credit was worth 20 per cent of the total dividend. The cut will affect the 12 million people who are members of occupational schemes. It will also hit seven million people who have personal pension plans. Hundreds of thousands of people in this last category are already in the process of being put back into their company schemes after being mis-sold personal pensions.

According to Maurice Fitzpatrick, a senior tax consultant at Chantrey Vellacott, depriving pension funds of about £3.5 billion a year will require increased contributions of about £190 annually on behalf *of 19 million people who are* either members of a company scheme or have a personal pension. Here *The Times* analyses the overall impact of the change.

Q What will the impact be on final salary schemes?

A Gordon Brown claims that many final salary *schemes have substantial sur*pluses that can be used to cushion the effect of the tax credit change. However, the National Association of Pension Funds says that 40 per cent of company schemes *could be technically insolvent* after the change.

Q How will the companies react to this raid on their pensions?

A Under the Pensions Act, final salary schemes must muster sufficient funds to meet their eventual liabilities. Many companies will have to increase the contributions to their schemes to make up the shortfall.

Q What about the impact on personal pensions and *money-purchase* company schemes?

A The seven million personal pension holders and the three million members of money-purchase schemes will be among the worst hit. These schemes do not have guaranteed benefits, so in order to make up the shortfall after the change to *the tax credit, participants* have to increase their contributions, by as much as 10 per cent.

As 90 per cent of people retire on less than the two thirds of final salary allowed *by the Inland Revenue, in*creasing contributions is probably a good idea in any case. Members of occupational schemes can contribute 15 per cent of earnings a year in to their pensions, while those with personal pensions can contribute between 17.5 and 40 per cent a year depending on their age.

Pensions still represent a *very tax-efficient way of* saving.

Q Are certain types of schemes going to be *more affected than others?*

A Those schemes and plans that are predominantly invested in UK equities are going to be those that are affected the most. Pensions for younger people will tend to have a high UK equity content. As people move towards retirement, pensions tend to switch more into fixed-interest *securities such as gilts and* corporate bonds.

Q Will pension fund managers themselves try to make up the shortfall?

A Pension fund managers are among the biggest investors in the UK stock market. It is conceivable that they will put pressure on the *companies to increase their* dividends to make up for the loss of the tax relief. Pension fund managers may also switch their money into fixed-interest securities and overseas equities.

Q What will happen to the annuity market?

A Annuities, which provide the monthly income for those retiring, will also suffer as a result of the change. Annuity yields are linked to the yields provided by gilts.

Peter Quinton, managing director of the Annuity Bureau, *said he thought that in* the long term annuity rates would fall. He said: "As more investors buy up gilts, the income will fall."

WEEKEND MONEY
is edited by Anne Ashworth

SIMON SCHLUTER

Young people will have to review their retirement planning after Gordon Brown's move to cut pension benefits

Young suffer most from cut in pension benefits

People in their 20s and 30s will be hardest hit by Budget changes that will drastically cut the value of pension benefits, it has emerged.

They may have to increase their contributions to personal and company pensions by between 20 and 30 per cent a year just to get the same pension in retirement, after the Government's announcement on *Wednesday that* it was abolishing tax breaks on pension fund *investments*.

Experts estimate that the removal of the tax break will slice up to nearly three quarters of a percentage point off *investment returns* which have been around 9 per cent. Even on the most conservative estimate, this could cut the size of your pension by 15 per cent over 40 years, according to Mark Bolland of Chamberlain De Broe, *the independent* financial adviser.

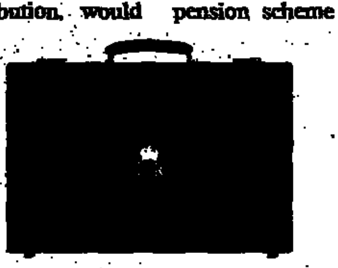
Younger people will suffer most under the new regime because most or all of their money will be invested at the lower rate.

According to Charles Levett-Scrivener of Towry Law, a 35-year-old who has so far accumulated a fund of £20,000 on contributions of £1,000 a year could have expected this to turn into £467,849 at 65.

The extra tax cuts this to £419,860, a shortfall of £47,989. He would have to increase his contributions by nearly a *quarter to £231.60 to* make up for the shortfall on the fund he has already accumulated. On top of this he would have to add a *further* £83.50 *to his* contribution to cover future shortfalls. He will have to pay an extra £315.10 a year to get the same pension in retirement as he *could* have counted on before the tax changes.

People in their 40s and 50s will be less badly affected but Mr Levett-Scrivener calculates that a 40-year-old paying £2,000 a year into a scheme in which a *£50,000 fund* has already accumulated will have to increase contributions by nearly a quarter.

A 60-year-old, with a fund of £200,000 and a £6,000 annual contribution, would *still need to* pay nearly 16 per cent more a year, a total of £952.20. If you have a *personal* pension or company pension with benefits based on contributions rather than final salary this will affect you.



If you are making additional voluntary contributions, the value of these will be hit.

So what should you do to cover the shortfall? Do the changes make other investments more attractive? Advisers are urging people to review their situation.

Trevor Llanwarne, partner and pensions specialist at Price Waterhouse, says: "The *issue for individuals is that* they should be looking at their whole pension arrangement. But they shouldn't do one thing in isolation or react *instantly to pressure*."

Here are some possible moves:

- Boost your contributions with building society windfalls. *If you have a personal pension* and have no employer to help to plug the gap, you could put part of a demutualised building society or insurance company windfall into your pension in a lump sum.
- Review your Serps pension. The removal of tax breaks also calls into question the wisdom of contracting out of the *state* earnings related pension scheme (Serps) and *into a per*sonal pension, advisers say. National Insurance rebates *diverted into* personal pensions have recently been restructured to make it more attractive for *older* people to stay out of Serps.

But as the value of pension investments falls at a *stroke*, many people may be better off returning to the state scheme unless rebates are raised to *cover the shortfall*.

- Find out if your employer is raising contributions to your company scheme. It will be up to an employer to raise *his* and your contributions to your company pension to *bridge gaps*.

But Charles Evers, partner at KPMG, says many employers may do nothing. "They may reach the view that the *difference will disappear with* the ups and downs of the investment market." If your employer does nothing, consider building up extra funds for retirement in a Pep (see below).

- Divert *pension* contributions into personal equity plans. If you are in a company pension scheme and are making additional voluntary con*tributions, consider investing* your AVC money in a Pep instead.

Tax breaks on investment returns from Peps will continue until April 1998, boosting returns and potential, making *Peps a more attractive option* than AVCs. Trevor Llanwarne of Price Waterhouse, argues that the Budget changes have made Peps a serious rival to AVCs.

Both types of investment *offer roughly even tax breaks*. You get no tax relief on Pep contributions but investments roll up tax-free and you receive all income and capital *gains tax* free.

You get tax relief on AVC contributions at your highest rate but you pay tax on the pension income.

The key difference now is that AVC funds will not get *tax breaks, which* will cut their investment returns. Mr Llanwarne says diverting contributions to Peps should be useful for people close to retirement, who will be able to take maximum advantage of the *two-year window* of opportunity on Peps.

SARA McCONNELL

Dark brown day for savers

PERSONAL INVESTOR

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

The morning after Gordon *Brown's first Budget, power*, water, bank and supermarket shares boomed; shares in high-tech exporters, engineers and most other manufacturers sank. This was not entirely what he would have wished.

Many more reactions to the Budget are likely *to prove as perverse*, from the Chancellor's point of view. He wants companies to pay out less of their profits in dividends and plough more back into investment. Pension funds will want companies in mature industries to raise their dividends faster to compensate for the *loss of dividend* credits in the Budget. So will holders of *personal* equity plans and charities such as the Wellcome Foundation. The cut in corporation tax will help.

Food retailers have immediately been targeted because most can raise dividends strongly and face constraints on their usually high level of investment. Similar logic applies to some banks.

In the long run, the new tax signals may *have the effect the* Chancellor desires. He believes lower payout ratios are *good* for the economy. There is little evidence that they are good for investors. In the short-term, at least, the impact will be the other way. In the chase for higher dividend income, income-seeking investors should favour mature domestic sectors. This bias will come at the expense *of small* high-tech growth stocks that need to plough back *profits and big* groups with high earnings from abroad. They will find it more expensive to raise equity capital.

At the other end of the spectrum, holders of preference shares are among the worst losers from the Budget. Fixed return preference shares feature in many high-yield income trusts but the market for them is *driven* partly by pension funds and charities. For funds, the *appeal lay in their ability to* claw back dividend tax on preference shares *from the* Inland Revenue. This appeal is now lost.

Many split-level investment trusts, often used as a base for personal equity plans, incorporate preference shares. The Budget should kill off new issues of split level trusts; it showed the risks of any vehicle with an *inflexible capital* structure that relies on tax rules *operating* at the time. Powerful pension funds will doubtless press companies that issued preference shares, including banks and utilities needing a euphemism for cash distributions, to redeem them if they can afford to.

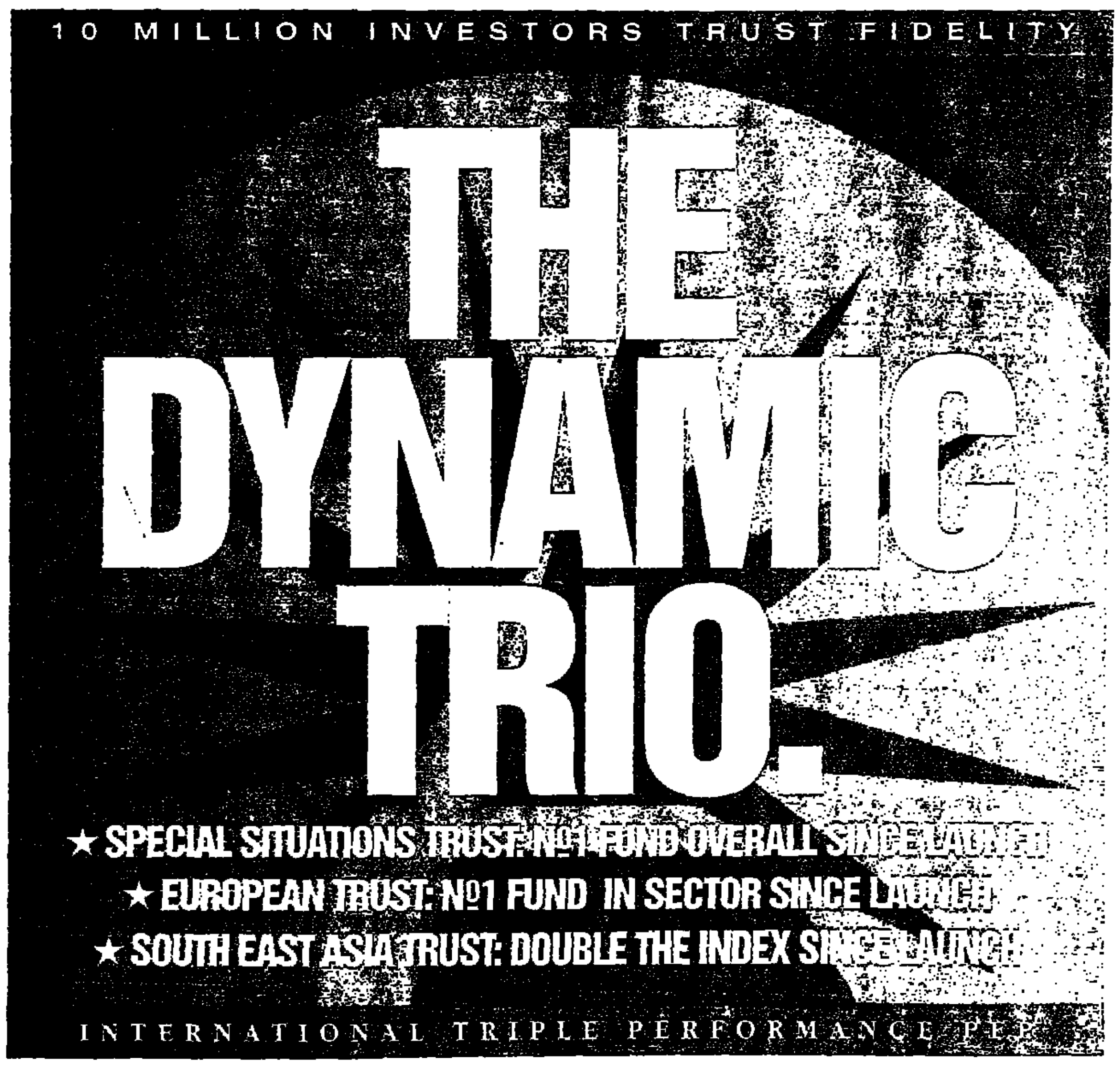
There are relative winners too. Howard *Flight of Guinness Flight Hambro* argues that the Chancellor has sent a clear signal to private investors that he intends to penalise the income-seeking equity investor. There is no such penalty on the bond funds in which his firm specialises, because they rely on *interest not dividends for their income*. Those considering buying corporate bond Peps for income should go ahead. With short-term interest rates rising, more companies are likely to be asking bond investors for money.

Long-term gilt-edged stocks should *also do well if Budget projections* are believed, in part because pension funds will buy more to top up solvency ratios. But yields are already down to 7 per cent and will not make you a fortune.

Savers relying on conventional equity Peps *should not* panic ahead of the unveiling of the *unknown new* scheme next year. But there seems little incentive for investors who are not liable to higher rate income tax to take up this year's allocation.

Cash deposit rates are becoming more attractive. This doubles the incentive to put the money into one or more building societies in the hope of further conversion windfalls, unless you regard *this as anti-social. Many savers may* also think this transition year is the moment to divert savings to improvements that will raise the value of your house. If these developments accelerate consumer spending and house prices, *the* Chancellor knows who to blame.

Next spring, Mr Brown promises to review tax on capital gains. If you have any, use your allowance while it lasts.



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Eyebrows raised over a mere £10.5m

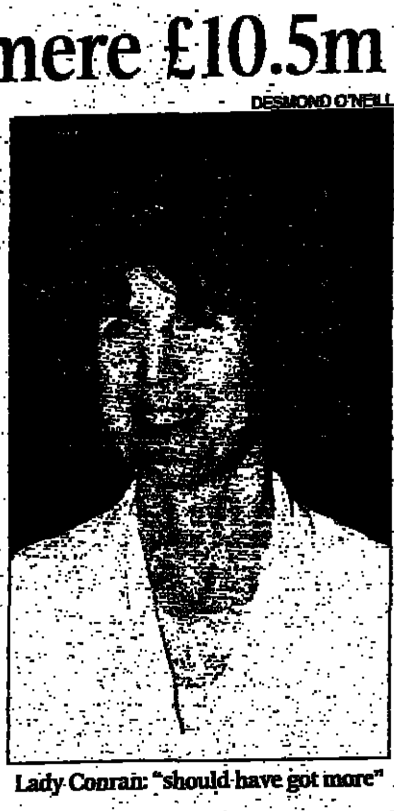
The £10.5 million divorce settlement awarded to Caroline Conran, wife for 33 years to Sir Terence Conran, designer and restaurateur, may seem dazzling in its generosity. But many matrimonial lawyers yesterday expressed surprise at how low it was. Lady Conran should be gnashing her teeth, not Sir Terence.

At the time of separation, Sir Terence had £80 million of assets (he now has twice that amount). The judge held that Lady Conran, a "creative, energetic and instinctively stylish" food writer, had played an essential role in the success of the Conran empire. But lawyers believe that, in the light of the judge's ruling, her contribution could have been valued more highly." A very mean order," said Frances Hughes of Bates Wells & Braithwaite." Why was it worth so little compared to the whole of his wealth?"

Disaffected wives of magnates hoping to equal or better the Conran score must show that they were active directors at their husband's business, or, failing that, intimately involved in decision-making and strategy. However, the former spouses of multimillionaires should be aware that the Conran case appears to prove yet again that a unwritten limit of £10-£11 million applies to wives' settlements in the British courts. For example, Maja Flick, former spouse of Friedrich Flick, the billionaire Mercedes heir, had to be content with £9 million.

The moderate level of settlements here is said to have made Britain popular with plutocrat husbands with multinational business interests who are "forum shopping" for the legal jurisdiction offering the lowest deals to ex-wives. Sandra Davis of Mishcon de Reya said the Conran payout would still have been considered "a very unimpressive result" in America. The US is currently enthralled by *Wendt v Wendt*, where Lorna Wendt, 53, corporate wife extraordinaire, is claiming half of the $100 million fortune of her husband Gary, chief executive of the GE Capital conglomerate. Men are quaking in US boardrooms. Leading article, page 21

ANNE ASHWORTH


DESMOND O'NEILL

Lady Conran: "should have got more"

Marianne Curphey on the launch of cheaper post-Budget policies

Insurers fear lapse in private health cover

Private health insurers are planning to launch cheaper versions of medical policies and plans with more limited cover after the Chancellor's decision to scrap tax relief on premiums for the over-60s.

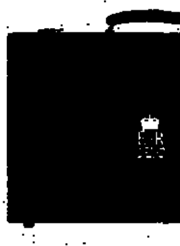
Insurance companies calculate that the removal of relief at the basic 30 per cent rate will force one third of all policyholders over 60 to give up their PMI. This could mean as many as 300,000 policies covering nearly 600,000 elderly people will lapse.

The relief was previously worth about £300 for a single person paying an average premium of £1,000 a year.

Health insurers are responding to the changes, announced in Wednesday's Budget, by urging customers to contact them to discuss how they can continue policies.

There is a danger that, if people switch insurers, they will almost certainly lose cover for their existing medical conditions. PPP healthcare, the second largest insurer in the United Kingdom, said: "It is a sad fact that in the long run switching to cheaper general insurance can prove a false economy. Given the imposition of the tax change most healthcare providers will be bending over backwards during the next 12 months to minimise impact on customers and retain their loyalty."

The industry could certainly do without this blow at a time when the number of people taking out PMI is falling and fewer companies are offering medical insurance as part of their benefits packages for employees. The Chancellor said he was removing the tax relief because it had failed to encourage more people to make private medical provision.



Julian Stainton, chief executive of WPA, one of the largest private medical insurers in the country, conceded that the tax relief had not succeeded in increasing the number of PMI policyholders.

However, he said that the National Health Service would have to cope with an influx of older patients and the extra cost would be £200 million a year.

He said: "This has huge implications, for waiting lists and resources as older people are much more likely to need healthcare than younger ones."

Before the general election, Labour had made no secret of its plans to scrap the relief and Bupa, the market leader, launched a lobbying campaign prior to the election.

Val Gooding, managing director of Bupa UK, said: "Our members aged over 60 are in the age group which needs the most care and the reassurance of knowing they will have immediate access to high quality treatment."

Saga, one of the biggest providers of medical insurance to the over-60s, said it had set up an advice line for policyholders and was offering customers a higher excess on their plans in order to keep the renewal cost down.

Phil Loney, marketing director of Saga, said: "We are also offering people the opportunity to reduce their level cover and keep the same premium."

Tax relief at the individual's highest rate on PMI for the over-60s was introduced in 1990 as part of the Conservative Party's plans to encourage the public to take out policies.

The relief was later lowered to the basic rate of tax at 23 per cent for all policyholders, even higher-rate taxpayers.

From Thursday, tax relief will only be given on policies currently in the process of being renewed and will apply only to those policies where payment of the premium is due before August 1, 1997. Since all plans which qualify for tax relief are limited to a contract of one year, all contracts which qualify for tax relief will come to an end by July 30, 1998.

Meanwhile, motor insurers were divided on whether moves to encourage the National Health Service to claw back the cost of treating road accident victims from insurance companies would lead to higher premiums.

The Automobile Association estimated that if all hospital trusts reclaimed the maximum £3,300 per person permitted, the bill would come to £440 million a year and would cost motorists an extra £20 on their premiums.

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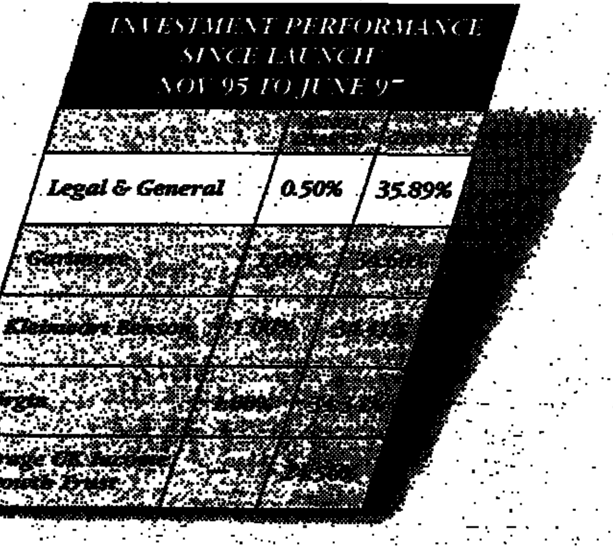
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To the Chancellor's discredit

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

In his Budget, Gordon Brown made much of his role as guardian of "the people's money", his homespun term for the public finances. One of his measures, however, indicates that he knows little about people and their money.

The decision to abolish the dividend tax credit has created uncertainty not only for the 19 million people investing in pensions, but also for the holders of Peps, including thousands of homebuyers. If Mr Brown aspired to cause confusion, this was not a mean achievement for a first Budget.

The Chancellor announced that he would be replacing the Pep with the individual savings account (Isa), his very own tax-free thrift incentive. But he was sparing with detail. The Government has been planning to introduce Isas for at least a year but seems to have little idea of how they will work.

In preparation for Isa's debut, the right to tax-free income on shares held in Peps will be withdrawn in 1999. It will be possible to transfer an unquantified amount of Pep money into an Isa. But it is unlikely that the transfers will be allowed to exceed the account's investment limit. This figure remains another of Mr Brown's secrets.

The Chancellor could argue that Pep investors have benefited from a decade's worth of tax exemption. But he appears to have overlooked those borrowers putting cash into Peps to repay mortgages, including thousands of Halifax customers. Already facing rises in mortgage rates, must they now invest a little extra to ensure that their loans are repaid? Or will they be able to save sufficient amounts in Isas to make good any shortfall in 25 years' time?

Mr Brown does have the chance to redeem himself. The review of the pension system, to be published later this month, should acknowledge the dismay caused by the abolition of the dividend tax credit. It should set out how it intends to compensate for this loss, and how Peps and Tessas and, after them, Isas can be used to supplement pensions.

Many believe that the Government should require us to make compulsory contributions to our pensions. But he must explain how this can be afforded after his tax raid.

Apathy costs

CAN it be Rowan Atkinson, certainly not George Clooney but entertaining enough in the TV advert? Is it the familiar blue and gold logo? Or is it just sheer apathy that keeps eight million people faithful to Barclaycard. This week Barclaycard raises its annual percentage rate to 22.90 per cent — 10 per cent more than many competitors. So, if you borrow £1,000 over six months with Barclaycard, it will cost you £113, but just £69 at People's Bank. Apathy costs.

Uncertain future for Pep mortgage holders

Among the hardest hit savers in the Budget are those with mortgages linked to personal equity plans (Peps) and pensions.

Pep mortgage borrowers are facing an uncertain future after the Chancellor's decision to replace Peps with the new individual savings account (Isa), which will be introduced in 1999.

Holders of pension mortgages also face possible shortfalls in their funds after the abolition of dividend tax credits.

The Treasury admitted this week that the future of Pep mortgages was "a problem that needed to be addressed" but gave no indication of when this would be done.

A spokesman said that he could give no guarantee that Pep holders, particularly those with substantial sums invested, would be able to transfer their funds directly into the Isa. It is possible that the Government will decide to cap the amount of money in a Pep that can be transferred into an Isa.

For pension mortgage borrowers, independent financial advisers recommend increasing payments by 5 per cent per annum to cover the shortfall created by the abolition of dividend tax credits.

Stephen Cave, head of corporate pensions at Moores Marr Bradly, an IFA in Milton Keynes, said that the annual reduction in yield on a pension as a result of the measure in the Budget could be up to 1 per cent a year.

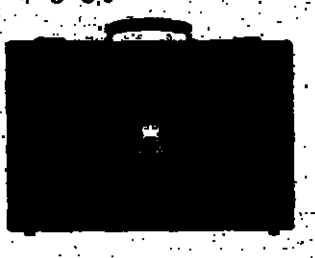
"The advantage for pension mortgage holders is that at least they get tax relief on their contributions, whereas any money which goes into a Pep is paid out of taxed income," he said.

He believes that holders of pension mortgages should contact their insurance company and arrange to increase contributions. "Bear in mind that you will probably have to pay an extra charge to do so."

Mr Cave says a borrower with a £100,000 mortgage repaid over 20 years needs to build up a fund of £400,000.

Assuming that the fund's current growth rate of 9 per cent per annum is reduced to 8 per cent by the changes in the Budget, the borrower will need to put in an extra £1,000 a year on top of the £7,000 he already pays to make up the difference.

This excludes any charges you will have to make for changing your contributions.



He said: "Insurance companies will be rubbing their hands in expectation of the extra money that will be coming their way."

Pep mortgage borrowers may be forced into a complete change of plan and the Halifax has called for clarification on the issue.

The Halifax made the Pep mortgage its flagship product last year and maintains borrowers need not lose out. The new bank says it would replace Peps with an alternative vehicle such as unit trusts.

"We are confident that the new ISAs will be suitable for mortgage purposes," a spokesman said. "If not, we will offer a suitable alternative."

However, according to Philip Cartwright of London & Country Mortgages, it is far from certain that there would be no loss to borrowers. "A lot of lenders accept responsibility for mortgage interest and not for the repayment vehicle," he said.

"Less sophisticated borrowers could be left with nowhere to turn if the Pep vehicle breaks down, and a lot of people could be paying off interest only."

Mr Cartwright believes that the replacement of Peps could also burden lenders with extra costs, particularly in the case of "packaged" Pep deals which are managed by the bank or building society.

"Putting a different repayment vehicle in place could be a nightmare, and it would be a huge blow to the lenders concerned," he added.

The Halifax said this week that it would continue to market its Pep product unless a serious slump in sales emerged.

However, it promised to inform all new customers that Peps were unlikely to exist for more than two years. In 1996 Halifax sold 50,000 Pep mortgages.

Natwest, which ran a high profile advertising campaign to promote its Pep mortgage on television, said it was still considering its post-Budget strategy.

MARIANNE CURPHEY AND NATHAN YATES

DENZIL McNEELANCE

Quick deal beats stamp duty rise

Nicola Jolley, 29, saved herself thousands of pounds by completing the purchase of her new house in London before stamp duty on properties worth over £250,000 rose from 1 to 1.5 per cent (Marianne Curphey writes).

"I was very keen to get the paperwork sorted out because I was concerned about reports that stamp duty might be raised to 5 per cent on all homes over £100,000," she said.

Ms Jolley, a derivatives marketer for the Industrial Bank of Japan, liked the "prudent measures" in the Budget. However, since her company is considering changing the basis of its pension plan from a final salary scheme to money purchase schemes, she is worried about the effect of scrapping dividend tax credits.

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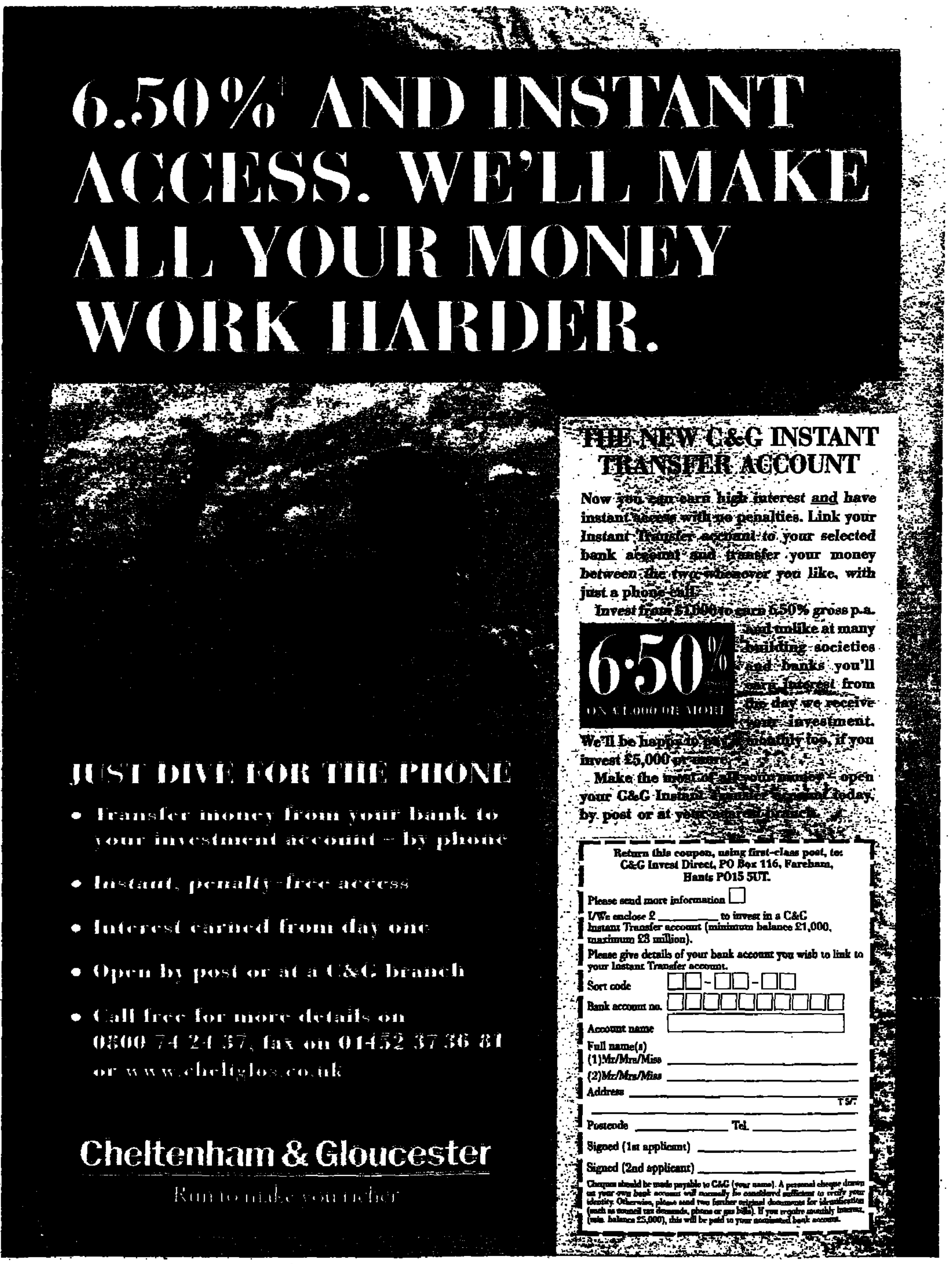

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Consultation period will be crucial for Isas

Karen Zagor says there is unease about the new savings vehicle

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Gareth Marr will be one of the first in the queue when the new individual savings accounts (Isas) go on sale in two years' time. "I'm looking forward to putting all my tax-free savings into one simple account" he said (Sara McConnell writes).

He confesses he is not one of Gordon Brown's prime targets, having already invested his full allowances in existing personal equity plans (Peps) and tax-exempt special savings accounts (Tessas) for this tax year, as he does every year. One of the Government's main aims in launching Isas is to make saving more attractive, particularly for those on lower incomes.

So far there are few details of the new account but Mr Marr, a financial adviser from Buckinghamshire, is hoping he will be able to roll his Pep and Tessa into the new account and hold all the investments in one plan.

Under current complex rules, this is not possible because Tessas are deposit accounts, while Peps hold bonds and shares. Savers can invest £9,000 a year in Peps and £9,000 into Tessas over five years and receive income and gains tax free. His daughter, who has just left school before starting university this autumn, is also planning to be one of the first Isa savers. Sian Marr has just turned 18 and so is allowed to invest in Peps and Tessas for the first time.

The investment lexicon welcomed a new word this week when the Chancellor unveiled his plans to introduce a new generation of savings products. Individual savings accounts (Isas), in spite of their less than inspiring name, are intended to appeal to a larger sector of the population than personal equity plans (Peps) and tax-exempt special savings accounts (Tessas).

Only half the adult population of Britain has any savings at all, and less than 13 per cent are Pep or Tessa holders.

If the Chancellor succeeds with his plans, we will all have Isas, allowing us to build up enough in savings to cover expenses in illness and old age instead of relying on the State.

In theory, Isas will incorporate the best elements of Peps and Tessas while avoiding their pitfalls. The specifics will not be available until next year, after a consultation period, but enough was revealed in the Budget to get an outline of what to expect from Isas. In spite of the Government's best efforts, some of the details are already causing a degree of investor unease.

Tax breaks are the main advantage of investing in a Pep or Tessa. Gains generated by a Pep or a Tessa held to maturity are not subject to capital gains or income tax. The formula will be extended to Isas, since Mr Brown has said that Isas will "provide a tax-favoured environment for savings".

One of the charges that has been levied against Peps is that they are designed to appeal to higher earners. The tax breaks from Peps are more valuable to higher earners than to lower, since lower-rate taxpayers are taxed at the 20 per cent level on their savings, compared with 40 per cent for higher earners.

In addition, very few people exceed their annual capital gains tax allowance of £6,500, so the capital gains tax advantages of a Pep only benefit the better off. Peps have an annual investment limit of £9,000 a year (£6,000 in a general Pep and £3,000 in a single company Pep).

Tessas are far less flexible, with investment limits of £3,000 in the first year and £1,800 a year thereafter until the £9,000 ceiling is reached. When a Tessa matures after five years, only the original £9,000 investment can be rolled into a follow-on Tessa.

Unlike Peps and Tessas, Isas will probably include a wide range of savings vehicles under one roof. Advisers expect investors to be able to tailor Isas to suit their investment and risk requirements using a combination of cash, gilts and equities.

It seems certain that Isas will have a minimum investment period, perhaps of five or ten years. This is already causing concern among older savers who do not want to lock into a long-term savings plan in case they suddenly need access to their money. Since Isas are a means for people to look after themselves in old age, the Chancellor might want to consider waiving the minimum term for people of retirement age.

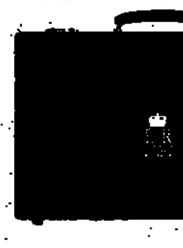
Days of the Pep are numbered as Chancellor ends tax break

The personal equity plan, devised in 1986 by Lord Lawson of Blaby, is unlikely to survive until the next century.

The Chancellor has dealt a death blow to this particular Tory savings incentive by abolishing one of its tax concessions while announcing the launch of the new Individual Savings Account. From April 1999 Pep holders will not be able to reclaim the 20p income tax on their dividends.

The income tax break is one of the primary reason why Peps are purchased, as most people do not exceed the annual £6,500 limit for capital gains tax.

Dropping the tax credit entirely will lead to a 20 per cent cut in income for Pep holders. For example, £6,000 invested in a general Pep investing in a collection of the UK's biggest companies could generate gross income of £210 a year, saving basic and lower rate taxpayers £42 a year in tax, and saving higher-rate taxpayers £84 per year. Cutting the 20 per cent tax credit would lead to a reduction in income of £42 per year. Instead of the £210 annual income, the Pep in the above example would pay £168 annual income.



Not all is lost, however. Corporate bond Peps, which generate income from fixed-interest securities, will not be affected. Managers of equity income funds are expected to start investing more in bonds to compensate for the expected loss in income.

The Chancellor also promised to reform capital gains tax in his next Budget. He wants to encourage long-term investment and may introduce a two-tier system to replace the current £6,500 threshold. How it would affect Peps is not clear.

In spite of this, Peps have done better than pension funds out of the Budget. The Chancellor removed the dividend tax credit from pension funds immediately. For this reason, if you are starting to save for retirement, it might be better to consider a Pep. They will give you 20 per cent higher returns for the next two years.

Most commentators reckon the Chancellor is preparing to kickstart the launch of the individual savings account (Isa) with the removal of the tax credit as the new account will doubtless be completely tax-free. There is no point in shunning Peps and Tessas as figures from the Inland Revenue indicate that investors will be able to transfer all their money into the Isa when it arrives.

Charles Levitt Scrivener of Towry Law, the financial adviser, urges investors not to abandon the Pep. "People should still maximise their Pep savings because in the long run equities outperform gilts and deposits by around 6 per cent a year. The big gain comes from investing in equities. The tax benefits are still good, just not as good as before." He also points out that investing in a Pep avoids filling in a self-assessment form.

Elsewhere, the Budget contained a small measure to help gilt investors. From April 6, next year, they can receive their interest from the Bank of England paid gross. This brings gilts in line with National Savings. This could save a small amount but will involve more paperwork when working out your tax liability. More significantly, the Bank has cut the number of gilt auctions this year from 11 to nine after the Chancellor forecast a cut in government borrowing.

An indirect benefit of the Budget for savers is that the Bank is widely expected to raise interest rates again in a bid to rein in the growth in consumer spending. One-year guaranteed income bonds are already rising as a result.

In the only other measure of substance for investors, the Budget cracked down on enterprise investment schemes and venture capital trusts. Introduced by the Conservatives, EIS and VCTs were designed to encourage investment in small unquoted companies by offering generous tax breaks.

However, an increasing number of schemes have invested in property development or arranged guaranteed payouts from banks in an attempt to reduce the risk to investors. The Government believes these break the spirit of the rules and has announced a review.

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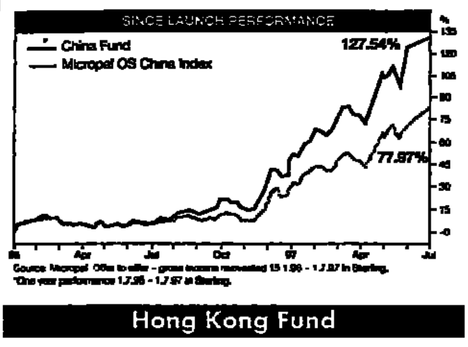

Source: Micropal. Offer to offer - gross income reinvested 15.1.96 - 1.7.97 in Sterling. *One year performance 1.7.96 - 1.7.97 in Sterling.

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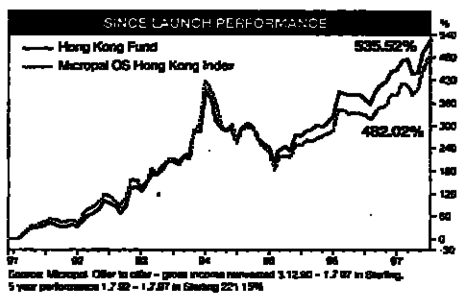

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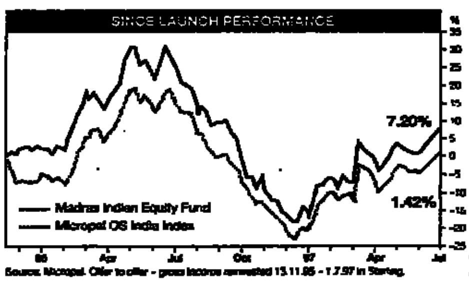

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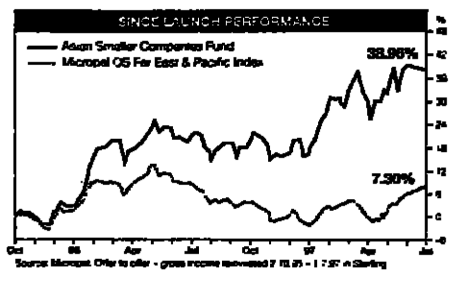

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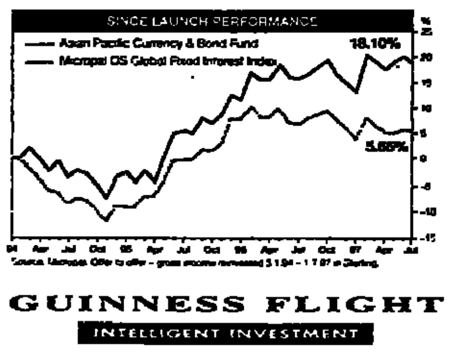

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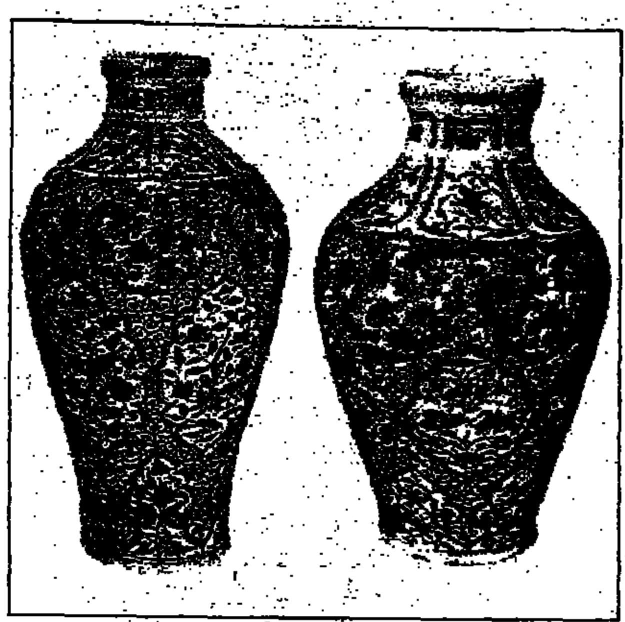
China on their Mings

Conal Gregory says dealers see oriental art prices rising after China's takeover of Hong Kong


As always, watch out for fakes — a real Yuan dynasty vase is on the left and a "copy" that can trap the unwary

China's takeover of Hong Kong will prompt a surge in prices for Chinese antiques, according to specialists in oriental art. Michael Goedhuis, a leading London expert in this field, predicts collectors will be chasing after a shrinking supply of pieces. "It will not be possible to buy freely in Hong Kong as in the past," he explains.

For years, Britain has been the centre for Chinese study and trade with top collections, such as the Percival David Foundation at London University and Oxford's Ashmolean Museum. Large auctions have been planned from here, and this year has seen a boom in activity, including the Hong Kong sale of a Qing dynasty bowl for £1.7 million in April.

In China, there are spectacular ceramic collections in Beijing's Forbidden City and in a new gallery in Shanghai, though many quality pieces are closed to public view in the Museum of History in Tiananmen Square.

For collectors, it is vital to identify genuine articles. Over the past year, prices have leapt ahead for top quality Chinese artefacts, but have not even kept pace with inflation for lesser pieces. Always ask auctioneers or dealers for the source.

A good provenance can boost the price. For example, one Ming blue and white saucer from the Wanli period (1573-1619) was formerly in the Alfred Clark collection. Five years ago, it would have cost £8,000, but today it is offered at £14,000 by Roger Keverne, a dealer in Mount Street, London.

Cloisonné of 15th and 16th centuries is rare and highly valued, but pieces from later periods are locked in a weak market, according to Sotheby's. Canton and Peking painted enamels of the early 18th century — Yongzheng era — have not changed price for ten years and are now tipped as bargains by Mr Keverne, who says that high quality jade animals are also rising in value. Jade carvings reached top prices in the late 1980s when Taiwanese collectors were buying. In ceramics, look for the high quality decorative work made before Tang Ying died in 1756. He was superintendent of the Jingdezhen kilns and ensured fine output.

The period most neglected until three years ago was the "Warring States" to Han dynasty (403BC to AD220). Here the simpler forms have now come into fashion with an 18in bronze vessel costing £10,000. Mr Goedhuis says "no fakes of this period are known", largely because the patination is difficult to imitate.

From horses to ceramics and jade, there are many fakes and most originate in China. Three tips for investors to avoid expensive mistakes: use the expertise of a dealer who belongs to the British Antique Dealers' Association (where there is a redress if a problem occurs); secure a dealer to buy on your behalf at auction on commission; have a test on ageing undertaken.

The latter is particularly useful for unglazed articles, and is carried out by Oxford Authentication, at Wantage, Oxfordshire (tel 01235 770998).

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Caroline Merrell considers the reunification of Taiwan

The wayward child grows up

TRUST WATCH

Taiwan can be viewed as the oldest and most wayward of China's children. The emerging economy with a population of 22 million is now under increasing pressure to return to China after 48 years of separation. However, while culturally Taiwan is predominantly Chinese, half a decade of independence has seen the economies and politics of China and Taiwan move in remarkably different directions. The original Taiwanese Kuomintang, led by Chiang Kai-shek, which in 1949 claimed to be effectively the Chinese Government in exile, has gradually ceded to a more open democratic regime, while the Government of the People's Republic of China, which forced the KMT into Taiwan, has remained communist.

The treatment of Hong Kong by the Chinese after this week's handover is being watched keenly in Taipei. If Hong Kong fares well under Chinese rule, then Taiwan may be more disposed towards reunification. However, the political parties favouring reunification did badly in the most recent Taiwanese elections. Most analysts believe the Taiwanese Government favours a retention of the status quo with China.

For UK investors, Taiwan should be seen as offering high risks but potentially high rewards. Over the past year, the Taiwanese market has risen about 27 per cent, and nearly 40 per cent over three years. Those willing to take the risk should choose funds that invest in other Far East emerging markets such as Malaysia and Thailand.

The companies quoted on the Taiwan market now have a total market capitalisation that is greater than that of the companies quoted on the Hong Kong market. Profits for most of Taiwan's industries are generated domestically — its biggest trading partner is China, with whom it enjoys cordial relations. The 390 companies traded on the Taiwan market are mainly in the banking sector. However, Richard Firth, a Schroder fund manager, said electronics companies have recently begin to overtake financials as the largest quoted sector.

The phrase "Made in Taiwan" is no longer associated with cheap plastic goods — PCs and other complicated electronic items now come from the region, many considered to be high quality. Hitachi and Philips are among two big companies that use Taiwan as a manufacturing base.

Mr Firth said: "The country has a well-regulated labour force. The number of quoted companies has doubled since the Eighties as the Government has begun to recognise the need for opening up the market to foreign investment." Although controls do exist on the amount foreigners can invest in Taiwanese shares, more deregulation is in the pipeline. Schroder offers an offshore single-country fund investing in Taiwan, with a minimum $1,000 investment. It also has exposure to Taiwan through its Far Eastern funds.

Germaine Sze, a researcher with HSBC, which has about £4 billion invested in Taiwan, is optimistic about the future. She believes Taiwanese companies will find it easy to exploit the economic emergence of China. She said: "The attractions of China as a destination for Taiwanese investment are obvious: proximity, similar cultural and linguistic heritage and the sheer size of the domestic market." However, she added:

SIMON KWONG

Wayward children: Young Taiwanese wait to put on a sports display in Taipei

"Concerns over the Taiwanese economy becoming increasingly dependent on China loom large. A recent call by President Lee of Taiwan for restraint on making investments in China has left many wondering about the relationship between the two."

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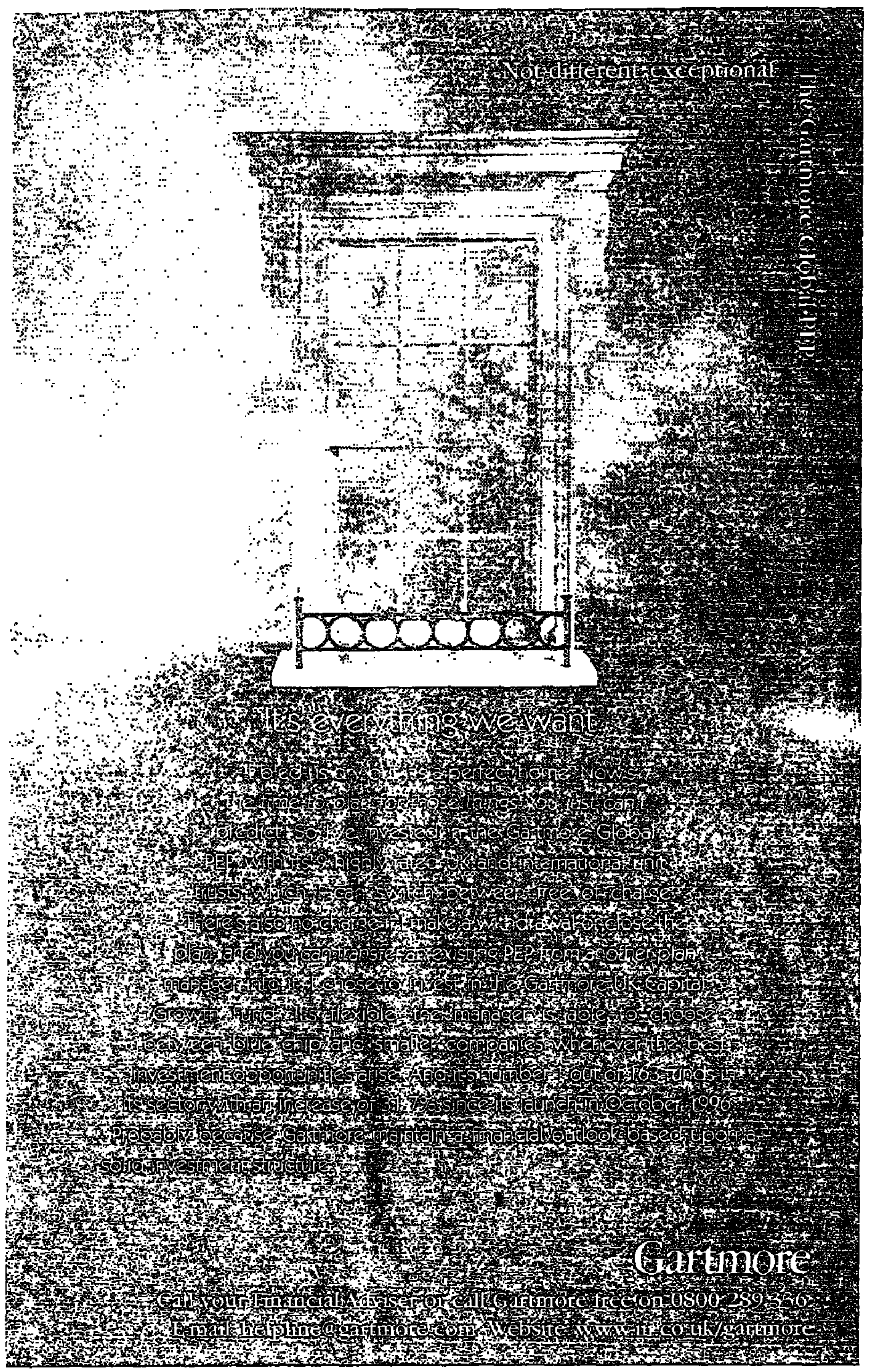
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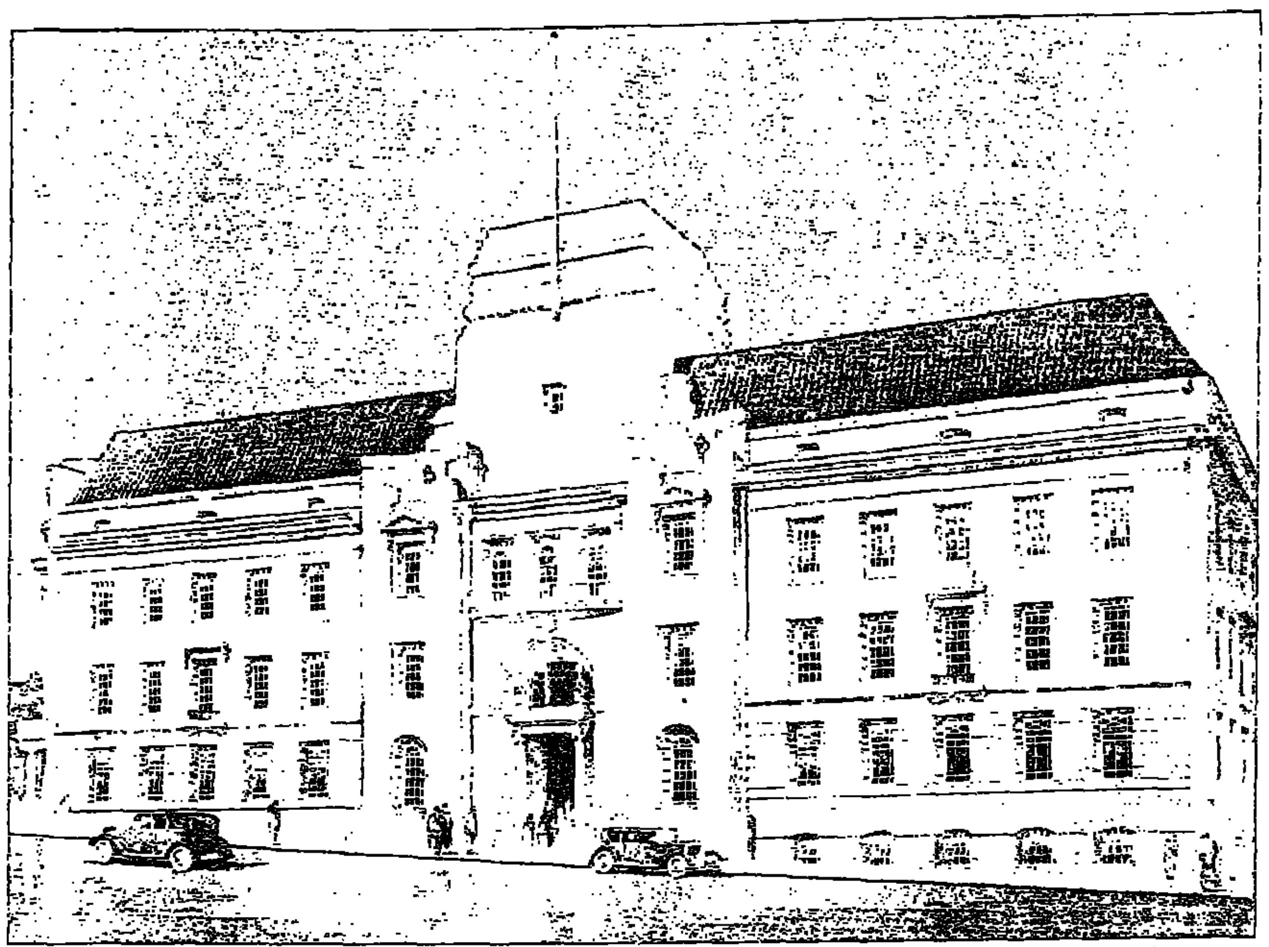
* Source: Micropal - UK Equity Growth Sector Basis: offer to offer net income reinvested as at 2nd June 1997. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Telephone calls may be recorded. Issued and approved by Gartmore Investment Limited. Gartmore's authorised unit trusts are managed by Gartmore Fund Managers Limited. Both companies are regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority and are members of the NatWest and Gartmore Marketing Group, Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ.

Karen Zagor says the latest windfall is off to a shaky start


Where it all began: the Woolwich Equitable Society's headquarters in Woolwich was built in 1934 at a cost of £120,000

With the Woolwich? No, but I should be

When the Woolwich shares start trading bright and early on Monday morning, many members will still feel they are being kept in the dark. *The Times* has been inundated with calls and letters from irate Woolwich members who have not received their share certificates in time for the first day of trading or who are still disputing their share allocation. "The impression I *have received, both from the helpline and* from my local ofice, is that the conversion office is in impenetrable purdah and — *one strongly suspects — in a great deal of* confusion," writes Mr Rosenfeld from Chingford, Essex.

As reported last week, computer problems have resulted in some members with tax-exempt special savings accounts (Tessas) not receiving their proper share allocation. And it appears that the problems may run deeper.

"I have had no correspondence about conversion from the Woolwich since January and until I read last week's article in the *Times* I didn't even know *that shares had been allocated, let alone* that they would start trading next week," said Ronald Wrigley. Yet Mr Wrigley *should qualify for shares through his Gu*aranteed Growth Bond acount. The society is unable to account for the problems but says there has been a problem with the post. "I think the Post Office is having problems with the size of the mailing," a spokesman said. "It took three weeks for someone in head office to get their share certificate through the mail."

Altough the spokesman is quick to reassure members that anyone entitled to shares will receive them, it would be *prudent for all Woolwich members to* double-check to make sure they are receiving the correct number of shares.

Many readers have discovered that the Woolwich telephone helpline is of little actual help. "The Helpline is a BT service and it can only answer questions on the script," a spokesman said. This is of little help when people have specific questions about their accounts. Instead, they should write to the Woolwich Conversion Information Office: P.O. Box 796, Sidcup, Kent DA14 6ZZ. The society says every letter will be checked and investigated.

With trading starting on Monday, the society will have to move quickly. Some brokers will allow investors to trade *without having a share certificate at* hand, but many insist on the certificate. And it is impossible for investors to sell their stake if the number of shares to be received is still in dispute.

The absence of share certificates could also cause problems for people wishing to Pep their shares. Unless the Woolwich acts quickly, this could cause some *sleepless nights because members* only have until August 17 to put the shares into a Pep. After that, they will have to sell the *shares and buy them back if they want* a Pep wrapper on the investment.

Shares are expected to be priced *between 312p and 320p a share when they* start trading on Monday according to the unofficial grey market run by IG Index, the bookmaker. This marks a decline from the opening grey market price of 332p to 340p a share on June 17. At present levels, the minimum allocation of 450 shares should be worth about £1,400.

At that price, brokers are divided about what to do with the shares. NatWest *Stockbrokers suggests selling, noting that* the Woolwich could have trouble maintaining its independence in the long term. *Solomon Brothers, on the other hand,* recommends holding he shares, on the basis that the Woolwich has strong *regional mortgage and savings* businesses.

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0800 000 222
8am – 10pm weekdays and 8am – 12 noon Saturdays. Or speak to your Prudential representative.

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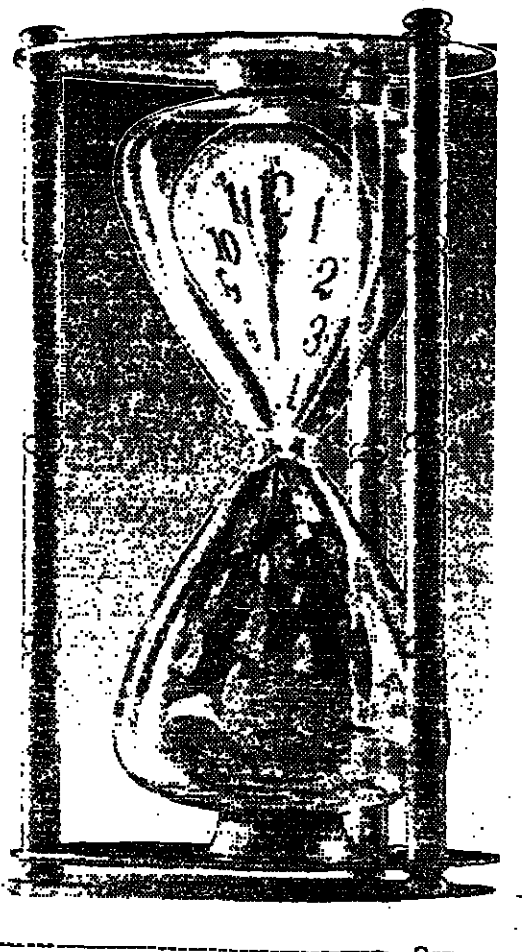

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Lizanne Rose explains why most people are immune to the charms of low-cost credit card issuers

Rewards blind most to true cost of credit

In the wake of the Budget, further interest rate rises are likely. But the British are unlikely to swap their credit cards for lower-rate alternatives as a means of saving money. We are "rate-insensitive" in American credit card-speak, with many seeming to care little what rate of interest they pay.

A survey in the July issue of *Which?* shows that even thrifty Consumers' Association members do not consider a low rate of interest to be the main feature when choosing a card. About 44 per cent of card holders do not know what rate they pay.

This may explain why the big bank cards get away with charging such high rates. Barclaycard, which has 32 per cent of the market, this week raised its Annual Percentage Rate (APR or "true" rate) to 22.9 per cent from 22.3 per cent. It also has a £10 annual fee.

The dominance of Barclaycard and its fellows persists in spite of the invasion of low-rate credit cards from across the Atlantic, such as RBS Advanta and People's Bank. RBS Advanta, a joint venture between Royal Bank of Scotland and Advanta, a US card company, charges an introductory rate of 9.9 per cent, with no annual fee. This rises to 17.4 per cent in May 1998 — still 5.5 per cent below the Barclaycard. People's Bank, another US group, has no annual fee and 14.4 per cent APR.

In its advertisements, fronted by Rowan Atkinson, Barclaycard prefers to emphasise its free insurance and other extras, rather than its rates. In his secret service role, Atkinson's life is seen to depend on the purchase-protection cover, provided by Barclaycard for items over £50 for 100 days.

Such reward schemes, ranging from Air Miles to car discounts, have proved very successful among card holders. However, they are principally intended to distract you from the interest rate and encourage you to spend more.

Affinity cards are a growing sector of the market, many of which are linked to charities. But some people doubt whether charity cards are an effective means of giving to charity. Carlos Mello, deputy managing director of People's Bank said: "If you look at the mathematics, it would be a better proposition to use a lower-rate card such as ours, and donate the savings you make to charity".

In the US, fans of Kiss, the rock group, can gaze upon the painted faces and lizard tongues of their heroes every time they use the new Kiss credit card. The card is backed by First Commerce Corporation's First Bankcard Centre and has a 16.9 per cent APR and a $20 annual fee

[illegible]

■ THE card you choose should depend on your repayment habits. If you are one of the 40 per cent of cardholders who pay off their bill each month, you do not need to worry about the interest rate. Choose a card without an annual fee and with a long interest-free period as is offered by Beneficial Bank, Capital One Bank and First Direct.

If you never succeed in repaying what you owe, choose a card with a low interest rate such as the Co-operative Bank's Advantage Visa (10.9 per cent APR) or Save & Prosper's Base Rate Linked card (12.10 per cent APR).

■ WHATEVER your repayment habits, you should study the way your card charges interest. The arrangements work like this: if you do not pay the balance in full each month, most companies will calculate interest from the date the item reaches your account. These include Bank of Scotland, Barclays, Capital One Bank, Lloyds, Midland and Sainsbury.

Others, such as MBNA International, Goldfish and Alliance & Leicester will, if your account is not fully cleared, charge interest from the date you purchased the item. A few will not charge interest until the statement date if you do not pay off your bill on time. These include Popular Bank, Standard Chartered and Frizzell Bank.

■ MOST cards will also give complementary travel accident insurance of between £25,000 and £100,000. It may be reassuring to know that if you book your holiday on your credit card, they will pay out if you have an accident abroad. But, in reality, most will only pay on death or loss of a limb.

■ GROWING numbers of affinity cards are now available, many linked to charities, and some to political parties. Premiership and first division football clubs are also now in the credit card game. For example, the Chelsea card sports the club logo, has an APR of 19.5 per cent and for every £100 spent, 20p is given to the club.

■ IN THEORY, borrowers could switch from one cheap rate to another as the introductory period comes to an end without ever paying the higher follow-on rate. Barclaycard is attempting to attract customers with the promise that it will slice 5 per cent off existing card debts when you take out one of its cards. But the deal is not so good as it looks. Barclaycard will only reduce your debt by a maximum of £150 and you must remain a customer for 12 months. Within that period, you can expect to pay at least £150 in interest and other charges.

■ FURTHER DETAILS of all credit card rates, charges and contact numbers, can be obtained from *MoneyFacts*. Call 01692 500677 for a complimentary copy.

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Mercury Retirement Trust plc

[illegible] Offer [illegible]

A new kind of investment which gives you more control of your retirement planning

What is the Mercury Retirement Trust plc?

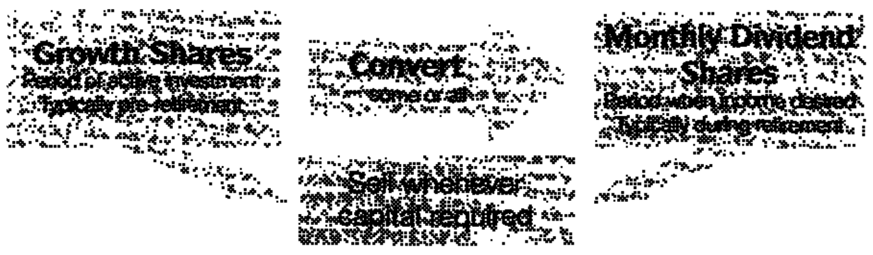
Mercury Retirement Trust plc (the "Trust") is a new investment trust designed to complement, rather than replace, normal pension arrangements. Like a pension, it is designed as a long-term investment. However, unlike a pension where early retirement can be penalised, it allows investors to have full access to their capital, both before and during retirement. It has two separate classes of Share – Growth Shares and Monthly Dividend Shares, each with its own separate portfolio. As a result, the Trust is not a split capital investment trust.

What do the Growth Shares provide?

The Growth Shares are designed to provide long-term capital growth for people who are working and actively saving for retirement. When income is desired, during retirement or otherwise, Growth Shares can be converted into Monthly Dividend Shares based on their prevailing net asset values.

What do the Monthly Dividend Shares provide?

The Monthly Dividend Shares are designed to provide regular and growing dividends for investors wanting income, whether in retirement or otherwise. Based on current market conditions, the initial annual dividend yield is estimated at approximately 4½% gross.


Growth Shares
Period of active investment: typically pre-retirement
Convert
some or all
Monthly Dividend Shares
Period when income desired: typically during retirement
Sell whenever capital required

A Prospectus relating to Mercury Retirement Trust plc (which is incorporated in England and Wales) has been published and copies are available (for collection only during normal business hours) until 21st July 1997 from:-

SBC Warburg, *sponsor and listing agent*, 2 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PP; Mercury Asset Management plc, 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS.

A Prospectus dated 6th June 1997 has been published which alone contains full details of the Trust and the securities being offered. Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for all the Growth Shares and Monthly Dividend Shares issued and to be issued to be admitted to the Official List of the London Stock Exchange. Application under the Offer for Subscription may be made on the Application Form below. Application under the Intermediaries Offer may be made on forms available from SBC Warburg. The contents of this offer notice dated 5th July 1997 have been approved by the London Stock Exchange for the purposes of section 154 Financial Services Act 1986.

Terms and conditions of Application

In the case of a joint Application, references to you in these terms and conditions of Application are to each of you, and your liability is joint and several.

In these terms and conditions, which apply to the Offer for Subscription:

"Applicant" means a person or persons (in the case of joint applicants) whose name(s) appear(s) on the registration details of an Application Form;

"Application" means the offer made by an Applicant by completing an Application Form and posting (or delivering) it to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc (the "Receiving Agent") as specified in the Prospectus.

"Mini-Prospectus" means the document of that name issued by the Trust dated 6th June 1997;

"Prospectus" means the prospectus dated 6th June 1997 published by the Trust.

(a) The contract created by the acceptance of an Application under the Offer for Subscription will be conditional on:
(i) the admission of the Shares issued and to be issued as mentioned in the Prospectus, to the Official List ("Admission") becoming effective by not later than 21st July 1997 (or such later date not being later than 21st August 1997 as the Trust and SBC Warburg may agree); and
(ii) the Placing and Offer Agreement referred to in paragraph 7(a) of Part V of the Prospectus becoming unconditional in all respects, and not being terminated in accordance with its terms before Admission becomes effective.

(b) The right is reserved by the Trust to present all cheques and banker's drafts for payment on receipt and to retain share certificates, and surplus share certificates and application monies, pending clearance of successful Applicants' cheques and banker's drafts. The Trust also reserves the right to reject in whole or part, or to scale down or limit, any Application. The Trust may treat Applications as valid and binding even if not made in all respects in accordance with the prescribed instructions and the Trust may, at its discretion, accept an Application in respect of which payment is not received by the Trust prior to the closing of the Offer for Subscription. If any Application is not accepted in full or if any contract created by acceptance does not become unconditional, the application monies or, as the case may be, the balance thereof will be returned (without interest) by returning each relevant Applicant's cheque or banker's draft or by crossed cheque in favour of the first-named Applicant, through the post at the risk of the person(s) entitled thereto. In the meantime, application monies will be retained by the Receiving Agent in a separate account.

(c) By completing and delivering an Application Form, you, as the Applicant (and, if you sign the Application Form on behalf of somebody else or a corporation, that person or corporation, except as referred to in paragraph (ix) below):
(i) offer to subscribe for the number of Shares specified in your Application Form (or such lesser number for which your Application is accepted) at the issue price on the terms of and subject to the Prospectus, including these terms and conditions, and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Trust;
(ii) agree that, in consideration of the Trust agreeing to process your Application, your Application cannot be revoked until after 21st August 1997 and that this paragraph shall constitute a collateral contract between you and the Trust which will become binding upon despatch by post to, or (in the case of delivery by hand) on receipt by, the Receiving Agent of your Application Form;
(iii) agree and warrant that your cheque or banker's draft may be presented for payment on receipt and will be honoured on first presentation and agree that if it is not so honoured you will not be entitled to receive a certificate in respect of the Shares until you make payment in cleared funds for Shares and such payment is accepted by the Trust in its absolute discretion (which acceptance shall be on the basis that you indemnify it, SBC Warburg and the Receiving Agent against all costs, damages, losses, expenses and liabilities arising out of or in connection with the failure of your remittance to be honoured on first presentation) and you agree that, at any time prior to the unconditional acceptance by the Trust of such late payment, the Trust may (without prejudice to its other rights) avoid the agreement to subscribe such Shares and may issue or allot such Shares to some other person, in which case you will not be entitled to any payment in respect of such Shares other than the refund to you at your risk of the proceeds (if any) of the cheque or banker's draft accompanying your application, without interest.
(iv) agree that any definitive document of title and any monies returnable to you may be retained pending clearance of your remittance and the completion of any verification of identity required by the Money Laundering Regulations 1993 and that such monies will not bear interest;
(v) undertake to provide satisfactory evidence of identity within such reasonable time (in each case to be determined in the absolute discretion of the Trust and the Receiving Agent) to ensure compliance with the Money Laundering Regulations 1993;
(vi) agree that, in respect of those Shares for which your Application has been received and is not rejected, acceptance of your Application shall be constituted, at the election of the Trust, or SBC Warburg on behalf of the Trust, either (i) by notification to the London Stock Exchange of the basis of allocation (in which case acceptance shall be on that basis) or (ii) by notification of acceptance thereof to the Receiving Agent;
(vii) agree that any monies returnable to you may be retained by the Receiving Agent pending clearance of your remittance and that such monies will not bear interest;
(viii) authorise the Receiving Agent to send share certificate(s) in respect of the number of Shares for which your Application is accepted and/or a crossed cheque for any monies returnable, by post, without interest, at the risk of the person(s) entitled thereto, to the address of the person (or, in the case of joint holders, the first-named person) named as an Applicant in the Application Form and to procure that your name (together with the name(s) of any other joint Applicant(s)) is/are placed on the register of members of the Trust in respect of such Shares;
(ix) warrant that, if you sign the Application Form on behalf of somebody else or on behalf of a corporation, you have due authority to do so on behalf of that other person or corporation, and such person or corporation will also be bound accordingly and will be deemed also to have given the confirmations, warranties, undertakings and authorities contained herein and undertake to enclose your power of attorney or a copy thereof duly certified by a solicitor or bank with the Application Form;
(x) agree that all Applications, acceptances of Applications and contracts resulting therefrom shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law, and that you submit to the jurisdiction of the English Courts and agree that nothing shall limit the right of the Trust or SBC Warburg to bring any action, suit or proceeding arising out of or in connection with any such Applications, acceptances of Applications and contracts in any other manner permitted by law or in any court of competent jurisdiction;
(xi) confirm that, in making such Application, neither you nor any person on whose behalf you are applying are relying on any information or representation in relation to the Trust other than the information contained in the Prospectus or the Mini-Prospectus and accordingly you agree that no person responsible solely or jointly for the Prospectus or the Mini-Prospectus or any part thereof or involved in the preparation thereof shall have any liability for any such information or representation;
(xii) irrevocably authorise the Receiving Agent and/or SBC Warburg, or any person authorised by either of them, as your agent, to do all things necessary to effect registration of any Shares subscribed by or issued to you into your name(s) or into the name(s) of any person(s) in whose favour the entitlement to any such Shares has been transferred and authorise any representative of the Receiving Agent or of SBC Warburg to execute any document required therefor;
(xiii) agree that, having had the opportunity to read the Prospectus, you shall be deemed to have had notice of all information and representations concerning the Trust and the Shares contained therein;
(xiv) confirm that you have reviewed the restrictions contained in paragraph (d) and (e) below and warrant as provided therein;
(xv) warrant that, if you are an individual, you are not under the age of 18 or under the age of 21 if you are a resident of the Channel Islands;
(xvi) agree that all documents and cheques sent by post to, by or on behalf of the Trust or the Receiving Agent, will be sent at the risk of the person(s) entitled thereto;
(xvii) agree, on request by the Trust, or SBC Warburg on behalf of the Trust, to disclose promptly in writing to the Trust any information which the Trust or SBC Warburg may reasonably request in connection with your Application and authorise the Trust and SBC Warburg to disclose any information relating to your Application as it considers appropriate;
(xviii) agree that SBC Warburg will not treat you as its customer by virtue of your Application being accepted or owe you any duties or responsibilities concerning the price of the Shares or the suitability for you of Shares or be responsible to you for providing the protections afforded to its customers.

(d) No person receiving a copy of the Prospectus or a Mini-Prospectus or an Application Form in any territory other than the UK, Isle of Man or the Channel Islands may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him, nor should he in any event use such Application Form.

(e) The Shares have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933 as amended (the "1933 Act") or the securities laws of any state or political sub-division of the United States and may not be offered, sold, transferred or delivered, directly or indirectly, in the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, US Persons (as defined in Regulation S under the 1933 Act). The Trust is not and will not be registered under the United States Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

(f) The basis of allocation will be determined by SBC Warburg in its absolute discretion after consultation with the Trust. The right is reserved to reject in whole or in part and/or scale down and/or ballot any Application or any part thereof. The right is reserved to treat as valid any Application not in all respects completed in accordance with the instructions relating to the Application Form, including if the accompanying cheque or banker's draft is for the wrong amount. In the event of oversubscription, SBC Warburg will conduct a scaling back in its absolute discretion after consultation with the Trust. Dealings prior to the issue of certificates for Shares will be at the risk of Applicants. A person so dealing must recognise the risk that an Application may not have been accepted to the extent anticipated or at all. The contract created by the acceptance of an Application will not be affected by any subsequent failure by an Applicant to establish a personal equity plan or the cancellation of a personal equity plan.

(g) Authorised financial intermediaries who, acting on behalf of their clients, return valid Application Forms bearing their stamp and SIB, SRO or RPB number will be paid 3 per cent. commission on the amount payable in respect of the Shares allocated for each such Application Form which may by arrangement with and at the discretion of the Trust be satisfied in further Shares at the issue price (without commission). Financial intermediaries should keep a record of Application Forms submitted bearing their stamp to substantiate any claim for selling commission. Claims for commission must be made and substantiated within 3 months of the closing of the Offer for Subscription.

(h) Dates and times set out in these terms and conditions and in the Prospectus and Mini-Prospectus may be varied by the Trust so as to be consistent with the Placing and Offer Agreement. Save where the context otherwise requires, words and expressions defined in the Prospectus have the same meanings when used in these terms and conditions and in the Application Form and explanatory notes in relation thereto.

SBC Warburg, which is regulated in the United Kingdom by The Securities and Futures Authority Limited, is acting for the Trust in connection with the issue and no one else and will not be responsible to anyone other than the Trust for providing the protections afforded to customers of SBC Warburg or for affording advice in relation to the issue.

Expected timetable
Applications must be received by: 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 11th July 1997
Dealings in Shares commence and Share certificates despatched: Monday, 21st July 1997
Last date for transferring into a PEP: Sunday, 31st August 1997

Application Form Mercury Retirement Trust plc

■ Applications must be for a minimum of £3,000.

■ Please return this form to arrive by 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 11th July 1997

by post to:- The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Registrar's Department, New Issues Section,
PO Box 859, Consort House, East Street, Bedminster, Bristol BS99 1XZ

by hand to:- The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Registrar's Department, New Issues Section,
5-10 Great Tower Street, London EC3R 5ER

■ Call free on 0500 0500 66 if you need help in completing the Application Form. TMRA 28/97

1 Personal details

Insert your full name and address in BLOCK CAPITALS. The Applicant must sign and date this Box. Applications may only be made by persons aged 18 or over. However, a parent, grandparent or guardian of a person under 18 may apply for the benefit of a minor, by giving the minor's initials in the space provided.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Title ________ Forename(s) in full ________
Surname ________
Address in full ________
________ Postcode ________
Daytime telephone no (in case of queries) ________ Minor's initials ________
Signature Date / 1997

2 Investment choice

Write in (figures) the amount you wish to apply for each different type of Share. You can apply for either Growth Shares, Monthly Dividend Shares or both. The minimum application is £3,000 for Growth Shares and £3,000 for Monthly Dividend Shares. Applications above £3,000 must be made in multiples of £1,000 for each different type of Share.

We offer to subscribe the amount(s) specified below for Shares in Mercury Retirement Trust plc at 100p per Share under the Terms and Conditions set out in Part VI of the Prospectus.

Growth Shares: £ ,000 Minimum £3,000, then multiples of £1,000. There is no maximum
+
Monthly Dividend Shares £ ,000 Minimum £3,000, then multiples of £1,000 There is no maximum
=
Grand Total of above boxes £ ,000 Minimum £3,000 There is no maximum

3 How to pay ☐

Pin your cheque or banker's draft here for the exact amount shown in the Grand Total box above. Your cheque or banker's draft must be made payable to "RBS – a/c MRT" and crossed "a/c payee only". Your payment must relate solely to this Application. No receipt will be issued. The right is reserved to reject any Application in respect of which the Applicant's cheque or banker's draft has not been cleared on first presentation. If your investment is £10,000 or more see the note below.

Intermediaries stamp here for commission.

SIB/SRO/RPB No.

No commission will be paid unless this box is completed.

To receive information on the Mercury Retirement Trust PEP and Savings Plan tick this box ☐

Please note: for lump sum investments of £10,000 or more,
(i) if you use a banker's draft or building society cheque, please ensure that the bank or building society puts your name and address on the reverse of the draft/cheque and adds their stamp; or
(ii) if the cheque is drawn by someone other than you, please ensure that one of the following documents is enclosed with the form: a recent original building society statement or utility bill in your name, or a certified copy of your passport or driving licence. A solicitor or bank can certify documents. Original documents will be returned by post at the Applicant's own risk.
Please note that if the above requirements are not fulfilled and suitable evidence of identity cannot be obtained within a reasonable time, the Trust will be unable to accept your Application

Cover up for summer — the forecast's wet

Cooling the blood 1997-style : festivalgoers at Glastonbury could not obtain refunds for the weather conditions, but these two did not seem to mind

The dismal weather has lost many people huge sums, but insurance is available, **Nathan Yates** says

The traditional wet British summer is returning with a vengeance, and downpours are already drowning out whole sections of the sporting calendar.

The Meteorological Office announced this week that last *month was the wettest June* since 1860, with more than twice the average rainfall. July and August are normally the *dampest summer* months, and forecasters predict a soggy holiday period. The rain which washed out Wimbledon, Ascot and the Lord's Test match is likely to return.

Buying tickets for outdoor events in this country is something of a gamble. An outing for a family of four at today's Wimbledon final will cost over £200, and tickets for the Old Trafford Test match today reach more than £30 each. If the rain falls this weekend, sodden spectators may feel that money as well as water is pouring down the drain.

Fortunately, there are ways to prevent the washout from lightening your wallet. Several events carry their own weather compensation packages.

At Wimbledon, tickets are refunded in full if there is no play, and half the price is returned if balls are not struck before 6pm. With cricket, regulations state that tickets will be fully refunded if fewer than ten overs are bowled on any day of a Test match. If more than ten overs but fewer than 25 overs are bowled, ticket holders can recoup half of their outlay.

However, this level of compensation provision is expensive, and there are many events where insurance against the weather is lacking. At Ascot, drenching conditions failed to secure racegoers any return.

At Glastonbury rock music festival the average £74 ticket comes without any guarantees of poor weather repayment. On a smaller scale, village fêtes, weddings and open-air theatre productions are habitually without weather insurance.

If you have a large stake in an outdoor occasion, it could be worth taking out your own foul weather policy. Eagle Star provides a policy known as "pluvius" which insures against adverse conditions. Pluvius, which means "rain" in Latin, can be tailored to individual needs. Its most popular form pays out a specified sum if an agreed amount of rain falls during the period of cover.

A *rain gauge is provided* with each policy to determine whether a payout is warranted, and to prevent any cheating *rainfall must be monitored* by an observer of assumed integrity, such as a vicar, policeman or JP.

John Lear, Eagle Star's weather insurance underwriter, issues strict instructions on how the gauge is to be used. It must be placed on level ground, away from trees and buildings, out of the reach of children and particularly beyond the range of dogs.

An alternative type of pluvius policy is available to insure cricket matches against the hazards of waterlogged pitches or gloomy light. These are taken out by caterers and corporate entertainers as well as by village cricket clubs.

In addition, a policy can be obtained to insure against the weather-induced abandonment of an event. This extends to a wider range of weather conditions, including high winds, snow and frost.

One of the more curious sample beneficiaries from a pluvius policy was a fishing contest which could not take place because not enough rain fell.

Mr Lear says pluvius policies are growing in popularity, with about 2,700 policies now being sold annually. Eagle Star has this week been working overtime to deal with compensation claims. However, although pluvius may be an attractive option for those with a large investment exposed to the elements, the minimum premium of £104 would not be worthwhile for the average family on a summer outing.

Customers must take out their policies 14 days in advance, so there is no opportunity to take advantage of a poor forecast. It seems that for many of this summer's disappointed trippers, even financial services cannot provide a way to beat the British weather.

Investors to vote on putting their trust in an Oeic

More than 200,000 unit trust investors with Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star are about to find out who has been *managing their money* for the past three years and what an Oeic, the latest investment buzzword, really is.

Both companies are subsidiaries of British American Tobacco. In 1994, BAT quietly formed Threadneedle Investments to manage both companies' unit trusts. Threadneedle, named after the City street in which it is based, has now stepped into the limelight with a proposal to streamline the two fund ranges by transferring investors' money into the Threadneedle Investment Fund. This will be an open-ended investment company (Oeic, pronounced Oik), a new type of fund, which, Threadneedle says, will be easier and cheaper for Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star investors to use.

TIF, holding £4.7 billion of investors' money, will have just 23 new sub-funds, compared with 38 unit trusts currently used by Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star. Threadneedle is initiating a three-phase merger and convers*ion of the unit trusts between* now and November. For instance, a new UK corporate bond sub-fund will be created from three Allied Dunbar and two Eagle Stat unit trusts. Unit trust holders will be invited to meetings at which Threadneedle will need a 75 per cent vote for the change to go ahead.

What is in it for investors? As an Oeic, TIF will generally charge slightly less in initial and annual management fees than the unit trusts. It will also quote a single price, regardless of whether investors are buying or selling. This is less confusing than the buy and sell prices usually quoted by unit trust managers. Investors will also become shareholders, which gives them slightly more rights than if they stayed unit holders.

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*Offer to bid, net income reinvested to 2.6.97 source Micropal. †Growth over 1,3,5 years of £1,000 offer to bid, net income reinvested, versus Micropal Sector Average. Source Micropal.
*1st out of 54 over 3 years (1.6.94 - 2.6.97). Source Micropal. The value of units can go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. Invest On-line is a trading name of Sun Alliance Unit Trust Management Ltd, registered in England with No. 2170342, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. The registered office is 1 Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AB. For your security, all calls are recorded.

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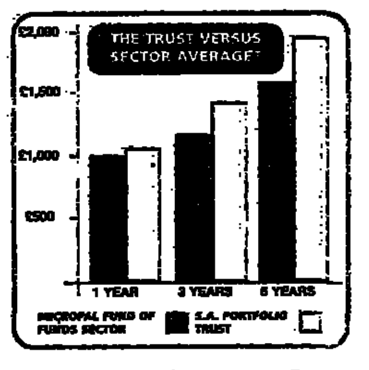
Portfolio Trust has an outstanding track record, with growth of 95.16% over the five years to 2.6.97.*

Put another way, £1000 invested at launch in 1988 would today be worth £2514*, though past performance is no guarantee of future performance. The minimum investment is £500.



In short, the Trust offers you an excellent track record along with the comfort of knowing that your money is in award-winning hands and spread across a portfolio of trusts. The fund is actively managed to ensure a sensible balance between performance and security.

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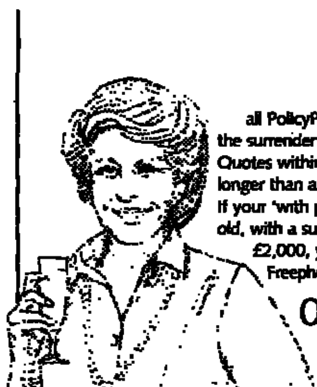

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*SOURCE: Micropal. Average share price growth per annum with net income reinvested from 1/1/80 to 1/5/97. The equivalent five year figure to 1/5/97 is 14.0% per annum.
Martin Currie Investment Management Limited, Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. Regulated by IMRO.

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WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Pension scheme members are not the client

From Mr A. Fletcher

Sir, First can I say how very much I enjoyed your article (The lady's definitely not for churning, June 21). Enjoyable because it brought home some very real facts that people, especially final-salary scheme members should, at the very least, be made aware of.

However, there are a couple of points I would beg to bring to your attention. First, why does it always seem to be a "soft touch" to attack the financial adviser?

You must remember that the employer/trustees are the client, not the members. The adviser has (legal) obligations to act in the best interest of his client(s).

It is worth noting that there are now pensioner trustees and often external trustees, all of whom are making calculated decisions regarding the best way forward. It is over-simplistic to argue that it is a situation of employers and advisers versus members' interests.

Secondly, following on from the above, recent legislation has often made it totally unfeasible to continue with final-salary schemes.

The switch to money-purchase arrangements of some sort may well be the only alternative to offering nothing at all. Never lose sight of the fact that the majority of schemes converting are in the "small to medium" range. They have had the foresight to offer a pension scheme to their employees and whatever the basis of that scheme, it is invariably better than no scheme at all. After all, the member does *not* have to join.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW FLETCHER,
18 Woodlands Place,
Northlands Road,
Southampton.

Left feeling just a little short-changed

From Mr S.J. Osborne

Sir, My 11-year-old son has received his cash bonus for being a qualified member of Alliance & Leicester since 1991. We chose A&L to encourage him to save long before conversion was thought of. His reward — £13.07. I, being a qualified member over 18, had about £1,500 and could easily have had a lower balance than my son. Do you agree that my son, receiving 114 times less than I, has been fairly treated?

Yours faithfully,
S. OSBORNE,
Manor Cottage,
Sleepers Hill,
Winchester, Hampshire.

The Co-op Bank — where more means less

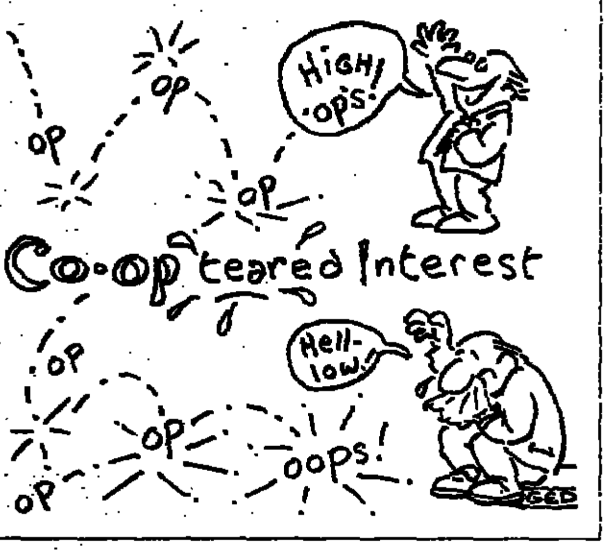
From Mr P. Hathaway

Sir, I received a letter recently from the Co-op Bank headed "More Interest on Pathfinder".

My immediate thought was that this was likely to be good news, but on closer examination my interest rate will be roughly halved, as tiered interest rates have been introduced by the Co-op Bank from July 1, 1997.

For a bank that prides itself on its ethics, I don't think the heading to be particularly ethical!

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP HATHAWAY,
25 Walton Station Lane,
Wakefield,
West Yorkshire.



Pence poser in Revenue tax guide

From Mr J.R. Thompson

Sir, I am one of the 50 per cent of self-assessors who miscalculated their tax bill. On investigation I discovered that the inspector's computer includes pence in its calculations, while the Tax Return Guide under the heading "How to fill in the boxes" on page 4 states "Please do not include pence".

I'm surprised that the failure rate is as low as 50 per cent!

Yours faithfully,
J. R. THOMPSON,
44 Stoughton Road,
Oadby,
Leicester.

First wife and widow are denied any part of a Service pension

From Mrs K. Currie

Sir, Further to your recent articles and many letters on the subject, I wish to draw your attention to a matter concerning Service pensions. Iniquities exist with regard to second wives and to former wives who have not remarried.

My late husband, Squadron Leader Jack Currie, DFC, was in receipt of a pension for his service during the war and up to his retirement in 1964. When he died last year, I learnt that under the current rules I was not eligible for a proportion of his pension.

Neither is the first wife. Yet my husband had a substantial history of service (as evidenced by the obituaries printed in *The Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*), as well as contributions which would normally allow him to leave a survivor's benefit.

When we married in 1975, my husband gave me to understand that I would not be eligible for a widow's pension from the RAF, but when the rules changed in 1978, he seemed to think I would be, and as a result, made no other provision for me. He died not realising the full implications of the changes concerning our situation.

My questions are: what is the justification for an occupational pension to cease on the demise of the contributor when there is a surviving spouse? And secondly, why is a contributor's service not recognised in the form of a benefit to the first wife if she has not remarried? For neither the first nor the second wife to benefit is inequitable, and your support is sought to bring about a change in the rules.

There is another point I wish to make. I know there are many men and women who gave their all during the war, and I trust that they and their spouses are being fairly treated. If not, I am sure there will be individual cases like mine being put forward for special treatment.

I believe that, through his books, my husband's great ability to inspire future generations to a life of flying in the RAF — with all the courage and determination that that takes — should be recognised, and that his life's work should not be nullified by the enforcement of a rule which denies a benefit to at least one of the two women who devoted their lives to him.

Yours faithfully,
KATHLEEN CURRIE,
Westfield,
Thirsk Road,
Easingwold, York.

■ Letters to the Weekend Money section are welcomed, but *The Times* regrets that it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for the advice or statements given in these columns and it must be emphasised that independent professional advice should always be sought over all investment matters.

Letters to the Weekend Money section can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5082.

THE WEEK IN MONEY

☐ The pensions fund industry is claiming employers will have to find an additional £75 billion over the next ten years to meet the cost of the changes to the taxation of dividend income announced in the Budget on Wednesday.

☐ The Treasury has begun talks with banks, building societies and fund managers over the new Individual Savings Account (Isa) to be introduced in two years' time. All existing providers of tax-free savings vehicles — Tessas and Peps — have been invited to take part in the consulation process.

☐ Insurers believe that the abolition of tax relief on private medical insurance for the over 60s might not save the Treasury any money because the Chancellor took no account of the costs of treating elderly people who will in future be fully dependent on the NHS.

☐ Miras, mortgage tax relief at source, will be cut from its current level of 15 per cent to 10 per cent from April 1998. The news was greeted with relief by mortgage lenders and builders who had feared that the Chancellor would scrap tax relief entirely.

Homebuyers who complete purchases of properties costing more than £250,000 after next Monday will have to pay an extra half a percentage point in stamp duty, which goes up from 1 to 1.5 per cent. The duty rises to 2 per cent for properties costing £500,000 or more.

Motorists face increased insurance bills after the Chancellor's decision to encourage NHS hospitals to claw back from insurers the £440 million a year cost of treating road accident victims. The maximum that hospitals will be able to claim is £3,300.

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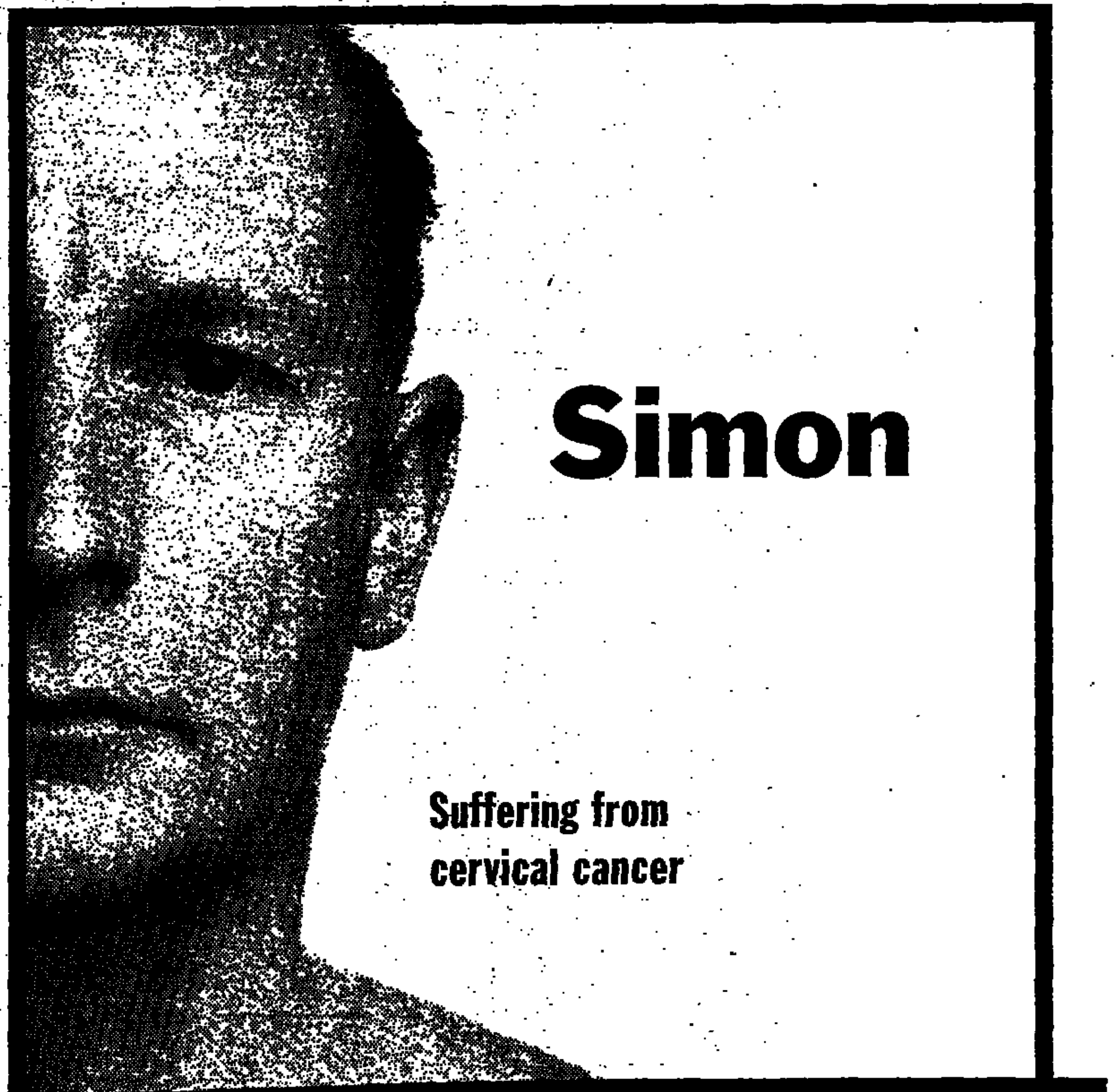

His partner contracted cancer. Thanks to medical advances, she recovered fully. But she couldn't work for some time. And the financial pain proved too much for both of them.

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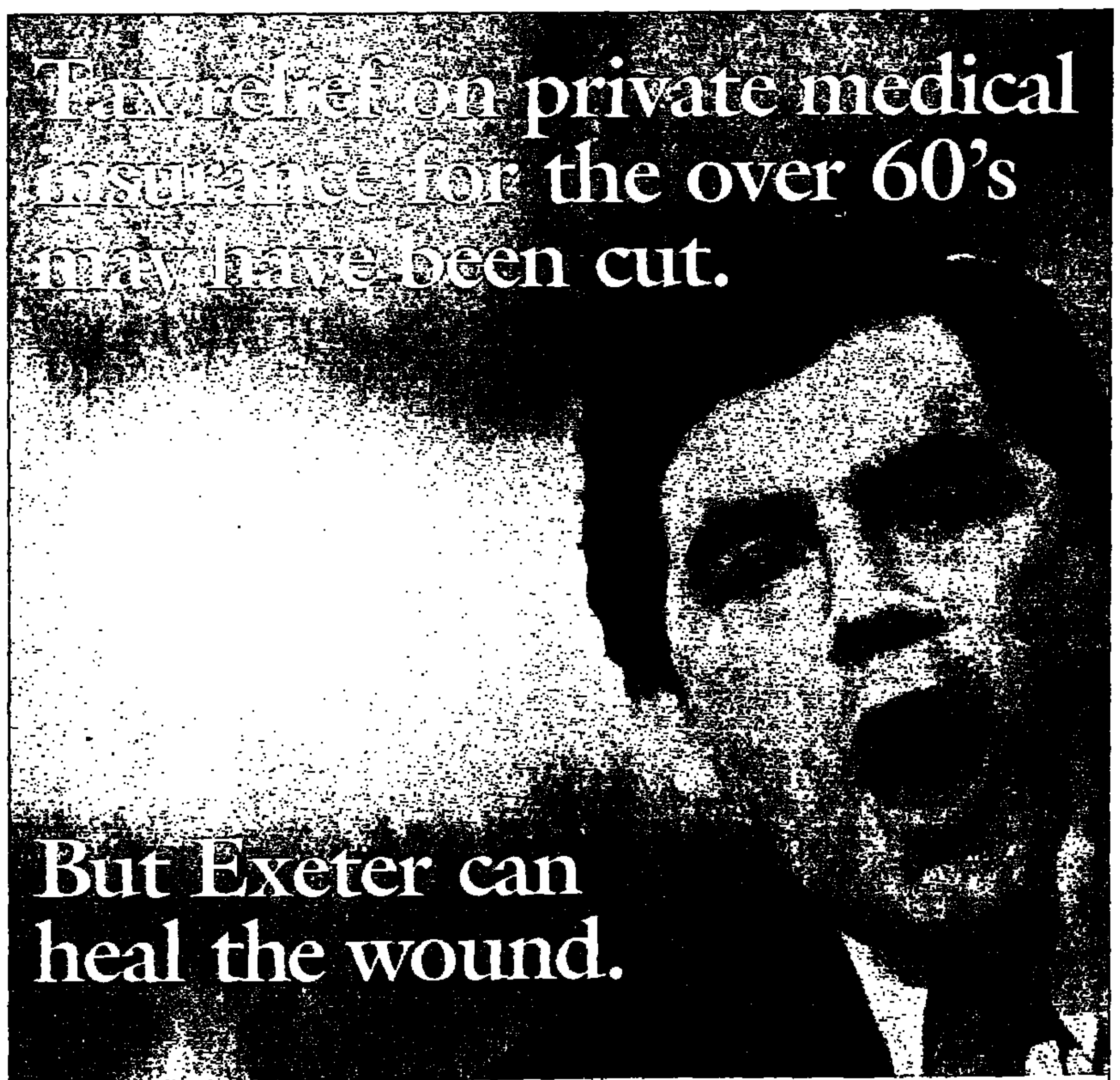
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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

A home for your shares windfall

If you are still undecided on what to do with your Woolwich share windfall, a factsheet produced by the Association of Investment Trust Companies (AITC) lists the Investment Trust Peps that will accept building society and insurance flotation shares. An overview of each Pep scheme is listed as well as charges and contact numbers. Call 0171-431 5222 for a free factsheet.

■ The Association of Unit Trusts & Investment Funds (Autif) has also issued a guide for investors receiving windfall shares. With the average handout between £1,000 and £1,500 new shareholders will have to make important decisions on what to do next. Autif's *practical guide shows* how to maximise the benefit of your investment, whether you decide to sell your shares and put the proceeds in a building society deposit account or hold your shares in a Pep. For a free copy of the guide, call 0181-207 1361.

■ Northern Rock is increasing savings rates on its postal and branch accounts by up to 0.60 per cent gross from today. Rates on Select 60 and Select Instant have also increased to 7.25 per cent and 7 per cent respectively. Northern Rock's offshore subsidiary, Northern Rock (Guernsey) Ltd, has also improved its rates.

■ *The Carpetbagger's Guide to Life Companies* looks at previous takeovers, mergers and demutualisations in the life assurance industry, considering what has happened, why it has happened and who has benefited. The guide highlights the easiest ways to become a "member" of the various life companies and examines which companies could be candidates for takeover. Send a cheque for £5 to Chartwell Investment Management Ltd, 18 Brock Street, Bath BA1 2LW.

■ The twentieth edition of *Pension Funds and their Advisers* is now available. The guide lists 2,000 of the UK's largest pensions funds which together comprise assets of £430 billion or almost two thirds of all UK pension fund assets. For a copy, send a cheque for £99.50 to AP Information Services, Roman House, 296 Golders Green Road, London NW11 9PZ.

LIZANNE ROSE

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sainsbury's Bank 0500 405060	Inst Access	Instant	£1	6.15	Yly
Cheltenham & Glouc 0800 742437	Inst Transfer	Instant B	£1,000	6.50	Yly
Abbey National 0800 174635	Bonus Postal	Postal	£2,000	6.75D	Qly
Alliance & Leic BS 0800 412214	First Cls Inst	Postal	£10,000	7.00	Yly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Leeds & Holbeck BS 0500 225777	Albion 30	30 day p	£10,000	6.65	Yly
Leopold Joseph 0171 5882323	40 Day Notice	40 day	£10,000	6.71	Yly
Scarborough BS 01723 500616	Scarbor 120 Day	120 day	£5,000	7.15	Yly
Coventry BS 0345 665522	Fxd Inc Bond 2	31.8.00	£10,000	7.60F	Yly

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505	Fxd+feeder a/c	5 year	£8,575	7.56	F/Yly
Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650	Premier+feeder	5 year	£9,000	7.45	Yly
Monmouthshire BS 01633 840454		5 year	£1,000	7.40	Yly
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£500	7.15	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Capital One Bank 0800 669000	Visa	0.64%N	7.90%N	Nil
RBS Advanta 0800 077770	Visa	0.79%N	9.90%N	Nil
Co-operative Bank 0800 109000	Advantage Visa	0.87%C	10.90%	Nil

PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

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Direct Line 0181 680 9966	13.90%A	£112.07	£101.33
RBS Direct 0800 121125	14.00%	£114.95	£101.45

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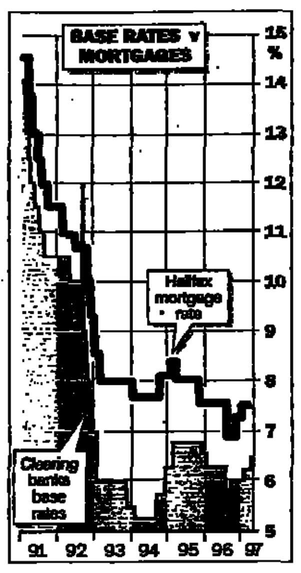
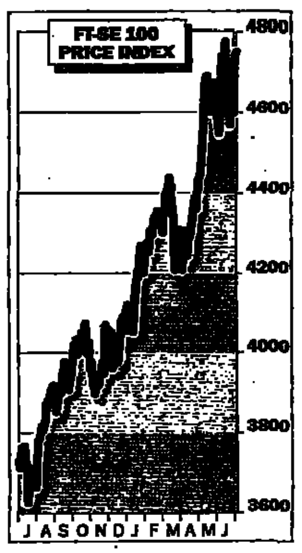
Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)





	Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c¹	1.50	1.20	0.90	10-10,000**		0645 645000
Investment A/c*ₛ	4.75	3.80	2.85	20-500**⁷	1mth	0645 645000
Income Bond* ₛ	6.00	4.80	3.60	2,000-25,000**	3mth	0645 645000
First Opt Bondₛ	6.25	5.00	3.75	1,000-20,000**		0645 645000
44th Issue Cert†₂ ₃	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 645000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					0645 645000
Capital Bonds ₆	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 645000
10th Index Lkd†₃	2.50			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Pensnrs Bond S3 ₆	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000₅	60day	0645 645000

¹ first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 ² Unlimited additional hldgs for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ₃Guaranteed when held for 5 years ⁴0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ ⁵£100,000 jt in addition to S1 and S2 holdings ⁶Taxable but cred in full ⁷£500-100,000 earn higher rates. **Tiered rates apply

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Generali ....Level	£ 9,551	£10,594	£11,952
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£ 9,508	£10,557	£11,987
Canada Life ....Level	£ 9,430	£10,516	£11,997
Standard Lf..........Level	£ 9,404	£10,496	£11,900
Norwich Un..........Level	£ 9,468	£10,476	£11,816

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential ....Level	£8,977	£ 9,782	£10,966
Canada Life ....Level	£8,727	£ 9,543	£10,734
Generali ....Level	£8,656	£ 9,516	£10,704
Norwich Un ....Level	£8,750	£ 9,513	£10,664
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£8,761	£ 9,510	£10,607

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Norwich Un ....Level	£8,567	£9,097	£ 9,761
Prudential ....Level	£8,499	£9,032	£ 9,851
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£8,379	£8,962	£ 9,789
Generali ....Level	£8,325	£8,959	£ 9,829
Stalwart ....Level	£8,243	£8,938	£ 9,722

Source: Annuity Direct (0171 588 9393)

Statistics compiled by Lizanne Rose

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at July 4, 1997

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	5,000	GE Fin Assur	6.20
	10,000	AIG Life	6.26
	20,000	GE Fin Assur	6.40
	50,000	GE Fin Assur	6.50
2 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.45
	5,000	GE Fin Assur	6.40
	20,000	GE Fin Assur	6.50
	50,000	GE Fin Assur	6.60
3 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.60
	5,000	GE Fin Assur	6.48
	20,000	GE Fin Assur	6.58
	50,000	GE Fin Assur	6.68
4 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.15
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.35
5 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.15
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.60

Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

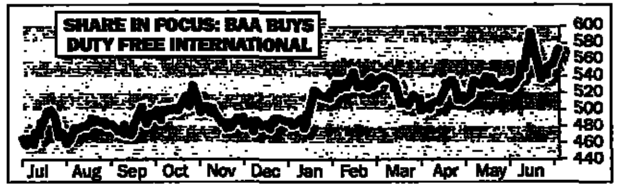
PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	117.71	7.934	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	141.38	8.222	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	158.01	8.227	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	163.34	8.189	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	158.02	8.227	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	151.54	7.945	100.75	1,000
First National	*11.750%*	*142.55*	*8.243*	*100.25*	*10,000*
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	164.13	8.149	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	131.56	8.138	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	154.97	8.147	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	154.97	8.147	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	157.07	7.054	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (30/09-27/03)	9.04063%	115.00	100.00	1,000
First Nat(22/09-20/03)	9.12031%	104.00	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares. Please note that following the conversion and flotation of Halifax their PIBS issues have been converted and relisted as subordinated (Upper Tier 2) debt. Therefore they have been removed from the listing above.

Source: ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Chelsea 0800 291291	4.85	No max	80	2.75% disc to 1.8.99
Northern Rock 0800 591500	4.99	to £250k	90	Fixed until 1.10.99
Nationwide 0800 302010	4.75	£150-300k	90	Disc of 2.6% for 1 year
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.05% disc-6 mth 3% disc-6 mths
Royal Bank of Scot 0800 121121	4.95	£150-250k	90	3% discount to 2.3.98

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0990 133149	0.95	£30-100k	95	6.99% dsc-6 mth 2%-6mth,0.5%-1y
Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220	0.75	£25-150k	75	Fixed at 0.75% to 31.1.98
Staffordshire 0800 216121	1.49	to £200k	80	6% dsc-1.9.98, 2.90%dsc-1.9.99
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.05%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Alliance & Leic 0800 412214	4.95	£30-150k	95	3% discount to 1.7.98

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Derbyshire 01332 841000	4.20	to £250k	95	3.15% discount for 1 year
Newbury 01635 43676	4.35	£15-100k	95	3% discount for 1 year
Mansfield 01248 202055	1.70	£25-250k	90	6% discount-6 mth Further dsc apply
Banks				
Bnk of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.05% disc 6 mths 3% disc 6 mths
Halifax plc 01422 333333	4.95	no max	95	3%dsc-30.9.99, 0.5%ovVR-30.9.04

Larger lenders, loans and first-time buyers tables by Bay's Guides Ltd (01753 880482).

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	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh. EH12 9SE 0131 339 9191				
Balanced	572.10	605.40	+12.20	...
UK Equity	775.10	820.30	+27.40	...
Property	433.00	458.30	+ 0.40	...
Fixed Interest	364.30	385.50	− 2.60	...
Money	275.50	291.60	+ 0.20	...
International	476.10	503.90	+ 6.10	...
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373				
Custodian S4	211.10	222.30	+ 1.30	...
Ethical S4	170.20	179.20	+ 2.40	...
International S4	237.30	249.90	− 0.20	...
Protected Gth S4	129.10	135.90	− 0.30	...
Asian Pacific	217.50	229.00	− 1.30	...
European S4	256.40	269.90	...	0.00
Prop Fd Ser 4	421.70	443.90	+ 2.40	...
Equity Ser 4	301.20	317.60	+ 9.20	...
Man Ser 4	857.70	902.90	+13.00	...
Conv Ser 4	362.10	381.20	+ 0.30	...
Money Ser 4	361.70	380.80	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	417.60	439.60	+ 1.30	...
American Ser 4	779.00	820.00	+26.60	...
High Inc Ser 4	934.10	983.30	+31.00	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	237.80	250.40	+ 2.00	...
Japan Ser 4	315.90	332.60	− 4.60	...
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	2121.10	2231.70	+36.20	...
European Fd Acc	556.10	585.30	+ 1.10	...
Fixed Int Acc	596.20	627.50	+ 1.70	...
Gtd Money Acc	368.30	387.70	+ 0.30	...
Intl Managed Acc	816.30	859.10	+ 6.80	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	367.30	386.60	− 1.00	...
Japan Fund	260.10	273.80	− 4.50	...
N American Acc	474.50	499.40	+11.00	...
Prop Fd Acc	498.80	525.00	+ 0.40	...
Multiple Inv Acc	1324.90	1394.60	+12.10	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	413.70	435.50	+ 0.10	...
Equity Acc	1932.10	2033.80	+44.20	...
Property Acc	698.10	734.90	+ 0.20	...
Far East Acc	347.20	365.50	− 0.00	...
Managed Capital	671.10	706.50	+11.60	...
-do- Acc	1451.30	1527.70	+25.30	...
Overseas Acc	1357.50	1429.00	+40.90	...
Gilt Edged Acc	586.40	617.30	+ 0.50	...
Amer Equity Acc	1274.50	1341.60	+21.00	...
Amer Man Acc	527.60	555.40	+ 8.10	...
Amer Prop Acc	115.50	121.60	...	...
Distribution Bonds	26.90	28.40	+ 0.40	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	183.40	193.00	...	...
Balcd Ser 6	953.40	1003.50	+17.40	...
Opportunity Ser 6	219.70	231.20	+ 3.80	...
Distribution Ser 6	110.30	116.10	+ 1.60	6.30
UK Equities Ser 6	1430.10	1505.30	+43.30	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	1454.10	1530.60	+57.90	...
North Amer Ser 6	658.70	693.30	+14.20	...
Far East Ser 6	580.10	610.90	− 9.10	...
Europe Ser 6	557.40	586.70	− 2.30	...
Intnl Ser 6	738.10	776.90	+ 0.00	...
Property Ser 6	618.50	651.00	+ 0.80	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	512.90	539.80	− 0.10	...
Ind-Lnkd Ser 6	206.80	217.60	+ 1.30	...
Gtred Dep Ser 6	329.50	346.80	+ 0.40	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	1227.30	1291.90	+42.40	...
-do- Initial	740.50	779.50	+25.60	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	291.00	307.80	+ 9.30	...
Euro Opportunity	317.50	335.90	+ 2.00	...
North Amer Opp	271.50	287.30	+ 4.50	...
Far East Opp	223.60	236.60	− 5.20	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	184.00	193.70	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	216.60	229.20	...	...
Fixed Int	242.30	256.40	+ 1.20	...
Cash	174.80	184.90	+ 0.20	6.49
Overseas	290.30	307.20	+ 0.30	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	470.20	495.00	+ 8.70	...
UK Equity	880.30	926.60	+26.30	...
Property	299.00	314.80	− 0.40	...
Money Market	277.00	291.60	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	352.00	370.60	+ 1.90	...
Japan	332.00	349.50	− 6.40	...
North America	241.60	254.40	+ 4.70	...
International	448.50	472.20	− 0.80	...
European	406.00	427.40	+ 3.40	...
Far East	165.60	174.40	− 1.90	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122				
Managed	472.30	455.10	+ 7.00	...
Property	288.90	304.20	+ 5.70	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	282.70	297.60	+ 1.10	...
Equity	526.00	553.70	+12.90	...
Cash	235.90	248.40	+ 0.30	...
CLife Euro Mgd	506.30	533.00	+ 1.10	...
CLife Intl Fd	413.00	434.80	− 0.20	...
Managed Fund	922.90	971.50	−14.80	...
Property Fund	580.30	610.80	+ 5.70	...
Equity Fund	1298.00	1366.30	+31.90	...
Gilt Edged Fd	729.10	767.50	+ 2.70	...
Deposit Fund	365.20	384.40	+ 0.40	...
Investment Fd	575.80	606.10	+10.50	...
International	657.40	692.00	+ 0.40	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101				
Property Fund	184.40	194.20	+ 5.90	...
Managed Fund	843.00	887.40	−14.90	...
Equity Fund	510.50	537.40	+16.20	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566 Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	374.20	393.90	+ 5.40	...
Ruby	213.20	224.50	− 0.20	...
Emerald	165.80	174.60	− 0.70	...
Equity	450.10	473.80	+11.90	...
Property	247.20	260.40	+ 0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	245.20	258.20	+ 1.30	...
Indexed Secs	190.00	200.70	+ 1.20	...
Cash	205.90	216.80	+ 0.30	...
Nth American	337.30	355.10	+ 6.80	...
Far East	314.40	331.00	− 3.90	...
International	301.40	317.30	+ 0.80	...
Special Sits	470.40	495.20	− 0.40	...
Intl Income	409.00	430.60	+11.60	...
European	475.10	500.20	− 2.70	...
Japanese	125.00	131.60	− 2.20	...
SE Asia	418.70	440.80	− 5.00	...
With Profits Reg	193.10	203.30	− 1.10	...
-do- Spec	193.10	203.30	+ 0.30	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	449.40	473.10	+ 9.30	...
Equity	583.10	613.80	+21.10	...
Property	232.80	245.10	+ 0.10	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	321.00	338.00	+ 2.30	...
Index Linked	204.70	215.50	+ 2.20	...
Cash	284.10	299.10	+ 0.40	...
Nth American	423.50	445.80	+ 8.90	...
Far East Acc	324.40	341.50	− 6.20	...
International Acc	383.50	403.70	+ 1.00	...
Special Sits	726.80	765.10	+ 2.40	...
European Flex	699.30	736.20	+ 3.60	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime.				

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Bristol & West (2) ‡	111.00	...	+ 0.10	...
Equity Mgd S1	311.90	328.40	+ 4.80	...
Managed S1	310.00	326.40	+ 4.30	...
Adventurous S1	250.10	263.30	+ 1.10	...
Managed (2)	209.40	220.50	+ 2.90	...
Eagle/Mid Uts	406.10	420.90	+ 7.50	0.01
Pension Funds				
Unit With Pfts (5) ‡	114.50	...	+ 0.30	...
Secure (2) ‡	110.00	...	+ 0.10	...
Managed (2) ‡	126.50	...	+ 2.10	...
Equity Mngd (2) ‡	128.50	...	+ 2.40	...
Adventurous (2) ‡	120.40	...	+ 0.60	...
Bristol & West (2) ‡	111.20	...	...	...
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366				
Managed	409.80	431.40	+ 4.40	...
UK Equity	565.90	595.70	+ 9.10	...
Stewardship	477.10	502.20	+ 3.10	...
Overseas Equity	382.10	402.20	+ 2.90	...
North American	229.70	241.80	+ 4.00	...
Pacific Basin	190.10	200.20	− 0.70	...
European	370.50	390.00	+ 1.40	...
Property	191.90	202.10	− 1.00	...
Fixed Interest	284.90	299.90	+ 0.30	...
Index Linked	192.80	203.00	+ 1.40	...
Cash	222.00	233.70	− 0.20	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	630.50	663.60	+ 3.40	...
Managed	926.70	975.40	+22.00	...
Deposit	379.40	399.30	+ 0.10	...
Property	527.40	555.10	+ 0.60	...
American	638.40	672.00	+15.80	...
Australian	706.20	743.30	− 1.30	...
European	873.90	919.80	+ 9.40	...
Income Acc	1021.20	1074.90	+37.70	...
-do- Dist	554.90	584.10	+25.60	4.45
International	402.10	423.20	+ 5.50	...
Japan Smaller	384.00	404.20	− 5.20	...
Singapore & Mal	442.30	465.50	− 2.80	...
Smaller Cos	588.20	619.10	−24.60	...
Tokyo Fund	619.20	651.70	− 9.30	...
UK Equity	804.00	846.30	+30.10	...
CCM Mngd Mg	980.60	1032.20	+17.30	...
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	347.10	365.40	− 3.40	...
GT Plan Wwide	596.20	627.70	+ 2.40	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	845.80	845.80	+11.50	...
-do- Inv A	845.70	890.30	+12.10	...
UK Equity	553.20	582.40	+17.20	...
Gilt Plus	233.10	245.50	+ 0.30	...
Managed	384.50	404.90	+ 5.60	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982				
Managed	275.40	289.80	+ 3.90	...
Unitised Profit	164.10	172.70	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	405.70	426.90	+10.50	...
Fixed Int	228.10	240.00	− 0.10	...
Index-Linked	185.90	195.60	...	...
Cash Deposit	191.60	201.50	+ 0.10	...
Property	188.70	198.50	+ 0.80	...
International	222.20	233.70	− 0.40	...
American	254.30	267.60	+ 5.50	...
Japan	221.40	233.00	− 3.70	...
Japan Smllr Cos	226.70	238.60	− 3.80	...
European	252.30	265.50	+ 1.90	...
Pacific Fund	319.90	336.60	− 4.80	...
Com Life	167.70	176.40	+ 1.80	...
Formerly Provident Mutual				
Managed Ord	628.80	661.90	+ 9.00	...
Managed Initial	390.00	410.40	+ 5.20	...
Equity Ord	1025.40	1079.40	+26.60	...
Equity Init	635.80	669.30	+16.00	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
HAMBRO ASSURED Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs PR2 2PR. 01772 840000				
Managed	221.90	233.50	+ 2.90	...
-do- Pens	288.80	304.00	+ 4.30	...
UK Equity	242.60	255.30	+ 6.60	...
-do- Pens	297.60	313.20	+ 9.30	...
International	189.90	199.80	− 0.40	...
-do- Pens	214.40	225.60	− 0.50	...
Deposit	153.50	161.50	+ 0.20	...
-do- Pens	187.50	197.30	+ 0.30	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	719.40	761.30	+10.80	...
British Fund	797.50	844.00	+31.10	...
International	701.50	742.40	+ 8.60	...
Dollar Fund	627.00	663.50	+18.10	...
Capital Fund	654.30	692.40	+14.30	...
Income Fund	987.10	1044.60	+36.20	...
Property Series A	531.00	562.00	+ 2.40	4.80
Property Units	895.30	929.60	+ 4.10	...
Financial Fund	948.90	1004.20	+35.50	...
Managed Ser A	719.50	761.40	+15.00	...
Managed Units	1300.10	1368.60	+27.10	...
High Yield Fund	881.90	933.30	+32.70	...
Money Series A	320.00	338.70	+ 0.10	...
Money Units	428.30	450.90	+ 0.40	...
Equity Fund	833.30	881.90	+17.10	...
Fixed Interest	449.80	476.00	+ 3.30	...
Indexed Secs	209.90	222.20	+ 1.80	...
European Fund	1038.00	1098.50	+ 4.00	...
Natural Res	306.30	324.20	− 4.70	...
Far East Fund	629.10	665.80	− 4.80	...
Smaller Cos	653.20	691.30	− 2.70	...
Special Sits	670.70	709.80	+ 5.70	...
Man Currency	285.50	302.20	− 0.80	...
Japanese Tech	303.70	321.40	− 1.00	...
US Smaller Cos	465.70	492.90	+ 7.90	...
Formerly Target Life Assurance Co Ltd				
Deposit	273.60	288.00	+ 0.30	...
Financial Ser 1	77.30	82.40	+ 3.00	...
Fixed Interest	380.60	400.60	− 2.70	...
Gold	78.00	82.20	− 2.50	...
Managed	793.70	835.50	+ 2.40	...
Mngd Growth	251.40	264.70	− 4.50	...
Mngd Opp	267.60	281.80	− 6.20	...
Property	390.20	410.70	+ 1.80	...
Residential Prop	122.50	129.10	...	...
TSB American	361.20	380.30	+ 7.70	...
TSB Brit Gwth	1252.70	1318.60	−40.10	...
TSB European	388.70	409.20	+ 0.80	...
TSB Income	576.50	607.00	−17.40	...
TSB Intl	537.30	565.70	+ 3.60	...
TSB Intl Inc	354.80	373.30	− 0.70	...
TSB Pacific	442.80	466.30	− 4.70	...
TSB Prem Inc	337.40	352.50	+ 1.40	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 42181				
Global Managed	741.40	780.40	− 4.40	...
Global Property	329.10	346.40	+ 4.50	...
Global Fixed Int	610.20	642.30	− 0.30	...
Global Equity	815.20	858.10	− 5.70	...
Global Cash	236.30	248.70	+ 0.10	...
For Laurentian see Lincoln				
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 01273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.80	141.90	...	...
-do- Acc	199.50	210.10	+ 0.20	...
Brit Opps Init	186.70	196.60	+ 3.50	...
-do- Acc	250.40	263.60	+ 5.20	...
Cash Initial	171.40	180.50	− 0.40	...
-do- Acc	318.80	335.60	...	...
Equity Initial	881.80	928.30	+22.50	...
-do- Acc	1640.40	1726.80	+45.80	...
Fixed Initial	384.40	404.70	+ 0.20	...

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
For AIB see Govett (John)				
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS 01203 553 231				
General Acc	789.80	840.30	+27.10	2.25
General Inc	654.40	696.20	+22.50	2.25
UK Growth Acc	547.70	582.70	+18.80	2.18
UK Growth Inc	350.10	372.50	+11.80	2.18
Higher Inc Acc	967.90	1029.70	+44.70	3.70
Higher Inc Inc	507.70	540.20	+23.50	3.70
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	221.10	233.40		5.44
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.40	99.70	+ 0.01	5.44
Nth America	400.80	426.40	+ 9.80	
Europe	429.80	457.30	+ 1.70	...
[illegible]	108.80	115.80	+ 5.80	2.35
[illegible] Acc	133.40	142.00	+ 4.50	4.49
[illegible] Inc	88.64	93.06	+ 2.99	4.40
Global Opps	113.80	121.10	+ 0.59	
Balanced Acc	71.33	75.80	+ 1.30	2.01
Balanced Inc	65.04	70.15	+ 1.30	2.01
Japan Acc	43.49	46.26	- 1.02	
Pac Basin Acc	397.10	422.50	- 5.10	0.88
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	135.80	144.10	+ 0.80	6.47
High Inc Equity	209.60	224.20†	+ 6.30	4.83
Worldwide Bond	266.60	282.80	- 0.50	2.93
American Growth	481.40	513.90	+19.50	0.32
Asian Pacific	339.40	363.00	- 1.70	0.38
Assets & Earnings	339.80	359.80	+11.20	2.64
Euro Capital Acc	232.00	248.10	+ 2.00	0.80
Extra Inc	43.90	46.79†	+ 0.40	6.40
General	304.30	323.70	+ 9.60	2.64
Global Opps	80.92	86.09	+ 0.14	0.46
Japan	103.40	110.60	- 2.00	...
Managed Inc	51.42	54.70†	+ 0.85	4.11
Mastertrust	189.70	202.90	+ 2.80	1.09
US Emerging Cos	191.50	204.80	+ 4.60	
Ethical	84.92	90.34†	+ 1.82	2.83
International	152.20	161.90	+ 1.40	0.54
Dividend & Growth	77.29	82.22†	+ 1.85	4.00
Global Gwth & Sec	78.70	81.98	- 0.15	2.46
Latin America	94.75	100.80	+ 1.22	0.38
Capital Reserve	149.40	149.40		4.80
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0141 275 8500				
M&P UK Growth	106.70	113.50	+ 4.10	1.98
Equity Income	149.50	159.00	+ 6.10	4.79
Extra Income	287.80	306.10	+ 7.30	5.91
Smaller Cos	105.00	111.70	- 0.10	1.58
International	129.90	138.00	+ 2.00	1.31
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2367.00	2483.00	-17.00	
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	72.54	75.38	+ 2.18	...
Emerging Mkts	81.90	85.91†	+ 2.38	0.11
European	168.39	175.95	+ 0.91	
Extra Income #	54.35	57.20†	+ 1.68	5.38
Far East Emg Eco	130.06	136.43†	+ 1.54	0.82
Fixed Interest #	26.62	27.86	+ 0.12	8.47
Fund Inv Tst #	167.58	175.94†	- 1.37	8.78
Japan	179.94	189.85	- 1.76	
Latin American	79.80	83.84	+ 1.83	
Pacific	84.11	88.29	+ 1.19	0.29
Property Share	82.56	86.84†	+ 0.41	1.92
UK Emerging Cos	68.26	73.78†	- 1.02	1.53
UK Growth	64.30	67.84	+ 2.19	1.77
Aber World Port #	90.19	94.99†	+ 2.09	2.49
Ethical	84.57	87.93†	+ 1.17	1.14
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.33	50.33†	- 0.82	7.08
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0171 256 5868				
Restd Property #	101.80	108.20	- 0.20	5.25
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	102.84	108.27	+ 2.87	1.96
Income Builder Inc	89.43	95.14†	+ 2.65	3.80
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	333.00	355.90	+11.50	2.83
Capital	576.90	616.60	+16.80	1.82
Balanced	962.10	1028.00†	+30.10	2.37
Accumulator	1874.00	2003.60	+61.00	1.56
Income Trusts				
American Income	75.83	80.800	+ 0.88	2.01
High Income	541.50	578.50	+20.20	3.88
Equity Income	302.10	322.80†	+ 8.20	3.44
High Yield	325.60	347.90	+12.20	3.54
Govt Securities	36.12	38.130	+ 0.30	5.44
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	252.70	269.00	+ 7.90	0.04
European Growth	69.05	77.600	+ 0.57	0.85
International	212.40	226.80†	+ 1.40	0.10
Japan	189.30	203.40†	- 4.10	
Pacific	421.70	450.70†	- 7.80	...
Secs of America	692.50	726.40†	+ 9.50	0.11
Worlds Asset Val	60.81	65.600	+ 0.12	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	761.60	809.40†	+28.60	1.79
Conv & Gilt	54.82	58.080	+ 0.44	3.82
Smaller Cos	202.90	216.80†	+ 0.59	1.85
2nd Smaller Cos	192.40	205.60	+ 0.79	0.76
Recovery	186.80	199.40	- 3.40	1.21
Met Min & Cdty	148.30	158.50	- 3.00	0.28
Divsc Earnings	492.50	526.40	+15.80	0.92
Technology	249.58	266.20†	+ 1.70	...
UK Special Sits	654.00	699.30	+14.10	1.39
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
Colroid Dst Pens	132.40	137.50	- 2.80	...
Franklin Pens Pens	78.29	81.38	- 1.11	...
For BSI-Thornhill see Thornhill				
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
America	404.50	430.90	+ 8.10	
Bond	123.90	129.70†	- 0.70	8.45
Brit Smlr Cos	110.30	118.00	- 0.60	1.88
Conv & Gen #	66.51	70.76	+ 1.09	5.47
Europe	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Euro Smll Cos	129.40	137.80	- 0.60	0.31
Income Gwth	392.40	417.40†	+ 7.90	4.18
Japan	325.10	345.90	- 4.10	...
Latin American	117.70	125.20†	+ 1.30	0.48
Pacific	122.50	130.30	- 4.02	0.52
UK Smlr Cos	58.65	62.71	+ 0.52	1.36
Japan Fd	627.60	648.20	- 4.40	...
Mngd Fd	232.60	247.10	+ 5.50	2.68
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 489 8673				
Brit & Ovsea	431.40	456.30	+ 4.80	0.77
Capital Gwth	151.30	160.00	+ 3.70	2.61
World Opps	253.00	267.80	+ 2.90	0.82
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 522 4800				
Balanced Trusts				
Gwth & Inc Inc	492.90	527.20	+19.70	1.88
European Bd Inc	100.70	103.70	- 0.10	5.98
Euro/UK	98.38	104.60	+ 4.20	2.39
500	499.40	537.80	+ 2.10	2.14
General	378.50	402.10	+14.50	1.99
Property	259.10	276.60†	+ 3.10	
Trustee	265.60	283.80†	+ 9.90	1.96
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.10	100.10†	- 1.80	5.93
Distribution #	121.90	122.50†	+ 3.80	5.46
Extra Income #	159.52	170.70	+ 5.68	4.32
Gilt & Fxd Int	81.12	83.01†	+ 0.82	7.44
Income #	680.00	725.30	+24.90	4.25
Income Builder #	77.15	82.10	+ 2.16	4.80
Intl Income	82.04	87.27†	+ 1.96	1.82
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	168.20	179.90	+ 6.60	1.89
FTSE 100	123.70	131.30†	+ 6.10	2.16
Leisure	181.20	193.90	+ 2.50	1.60
Recovery	583.10	621.90	+20.20	2
Smllr Cos Inc	58.56	62.48	- 0.19	2.33
Special Sits	481.70	511.80	+20.00	1.97
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	215.30	227.80	+ 5.40	0.27
F East Gwth Acc	321.80	342.10	- 2.10	0.32
Far East Gwth	190.50	202.70†	- 1.20	0.32
Euro Gwth Inc	227.00	240.20	+ 1.30	0.54
-do- Accum	248.50	261.30	+ 1.30	0.54
Japan	128.80	136.80	- 3.30	...
-do- Accum	130.30	138.40	- 3.30	...
Japan Spec Sits	61.45	65.08	- 1.59	
Worldwide	222.70	236.40†	+ 0.60	0.67
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 214 1004				
American Growth	168.00	177.40	+ 5.10	
Amer Smllr Cos	156.10	165.60	+ 3.80	
Eastern	299.80	321.70	- 3.80	0.30
Equity Income #	114.80	122.50	+ 3.40	4.20
European Growth	438.20	466.20	+ 4.40	0.80
Europa	418.10	445.00†	+ 0.20	0.80
German Growth	106.10	112.30	+ 1.00	0.50
Global Bond	72.15	75.84	- 0.06	5.20
Global Growth	165.60	175.60	+ 2.50	0.40
Japan Growth	181.20	192.10	- 3.50	
Japan Smaller	127.40	134.70	- 0.49	
Korea Trust	56.03	60.79	+ 3.15	
Portfolio	166.10	176.90	+ 3.70	2.00
-do- Accum	316.70	337.20	+ 7.00	2.00
UK Growth	122.10	130.70†	+ 2.50	3.80
UK Smaller Cos	102.10	110.90	- 0.40	1.50
Select Managers	96.00	102.50	+ 1.30	1.80
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	105.60	112.30	+ 1.80	..
Special Opps Inc	72.04	76.64	+ 1.45	...
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD 0141 229 6030				
Balanced Growth	171.40	178.54	+ 4.95	1.41
-do- Accum	200.59	208.95	+ 5.00	1.41
Smaller Cos	171.89	179.05	+ 0.02	0.49
Higher Yield #	64.92	67.63†	+ 1.59	3.98
American Gth Inc	120.45	125.47	+ 2.41	..
European Growth	198.98	207.27	+ 1.53	...
-do- Accum	203.23	211.70	+ 1.58	...
Mngd Ptflo Inc	60.93	63.47	+ 0.53	1.23
-do- Accum	63.55	66.19	+ 0.54	1.23
Intl Spec Opps	191.79	199.16	+ 0.82	
Pacific Gth	162.18	168.93	- 5.54	...
UK General #	116.01	120.84†	+ 4.77	2.95
-do- Accum #	127.76	133.08	+ 5.25	2.95
Japan	53.78	56.02	- 1.22	...
Gilt & Fixed Int #	104.65	108.45†	+ 0.70	7.74
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	64.72	65.55	- 0.11	6.47
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0161 837 5060				
Environ	198.70	209.10†	+ 2.10	1.85
UK Growth	251.30	264.50	+10.80	1.88
UK Income	170.40	179.40	+ 5.50	3.94
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD 01707 822 190				
Can Gen Dist	268.50	282.40	+ 7.40	1.48
-do- Income Dist	145.20	153.80	+ 5.60	3.25
-do- Accum	483.00	512.00	+18.80	3.25
Gilt & Fxd Dst	42.49	44.65	+ 0.15	6.89
Growth Units	308.70	321.60	+10.60	1.82
Bond	183.00	193.10	+ 0.80	6.40
Intl Growth	258.10	274.90	+ 0.50	0.17
North American	307.40	326.50	+ 7.50	0.08
Far East	315.40	337.30†	- 1.40	0.57
UK Smaller Cos	236.30	251.70†	- 1.60	1.13
European	110.50	117.30†		0.43
Japanese Growth	41.72	44.24	- 0.71	
High Income	258.60	274.20	+10.70	3.71
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	254.80	269.60	+ 6.50	...
European Inc	114.80	121.70		0.12
Smaller Cos (4-1)	109.40	116.40	- 0.10	1.77
Growth	632.60	673.00	+18.50	1.87
Income & Growth #	535.00	569.20	+18.50	4.38
-do- Accum #	820.20	872.80	+26.40	4.35
Japan & Gen	61.69	66.38	- 1.95	
Hallmark Gwth	1403.00	1492.00†	+32.00	1.61
-do- Accum	1754.00	1828.00	+40.60	1.61
Special Sits	144.40	153.70†	+ 2.10	1.50
High Yield	1709.00	1762.00	+56.00	3.84
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	111.17	118.68†	+ 0.74	2.08
American Portfolio	146.78	165.86†	+ 1.57	0.58
European Portfolio	157.80	167.88	+ 2.72	0.42
High Income	54.29	57.05	+ 2.97	6.67
Japanese Portfolio	62.88	66.68†	- 1.11	
Pacific Portfolio	159.81	171.63†	- 0.88	0.76
UK Equity	300.84	319.28	+ 3.15	2.06
UK Equity & Bd	83.54	87.25	+ 1.56	5.38
UK Smll Cos	52.15	55.78	+ 0.70	1.71
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	832.49	895.37	+ 3.83	3.99
Inv Fd Acc	983.45	876.48	+ 3.07	...
Fxd Int Sec Inc	159.15	158.79	+ 1.81	8.05
Fxd Int Sec Acc	182.78	183.44	+ 1.05	..
COIF CHARITY FUNDS 0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	858.95	871.93		3.97
Investment Acc	4051.30	4112.80	...	
Fixed Int Inc	134.85	131.58		8.70
Fixed Int Acc	250.07	251.07		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Buckmaster Intl	88.12	93.92	+ 0.86	5.20
Buck Bio-Tech	37.57	40.77†	- 0.91	
Acorn Ethical Tst	193.07	207.14†	- 0.48	0.45
City Fin Assets	83.57	87.78	+ 1.31	1.39
City Fin Intl	95.32	100.00	+ 0.22	0.08
Finns Hse Cap	335.10	356.57	+ 2.76	2.23
Buckley Wld Gro	152.91	162.96	+ 1.87	
Stew Utilities	73.71	75.30	+ 4.52	4.62
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 712 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	65.31	69.29	+ 1.55	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0345 772 233				
American Gwth	92.24	98.13	+ 1.78	...
Europe Growth	74.56	79.74	- 0.75	0.20
Equity High Inc	106.13	112.30†	+ 1.48	3.95
-do- Accum	157.71	166.35	+ 0.51	3.35
Extra Income Inc	27.61	29.07†	- 0.25	6.51
Extra Income Acc	31.67	33.36	+ 0.15	6.51
European Gwth	78.62	83.30	+ 1.08	0.15
Evergreen	33.40	35.72	+ 0.39	
General Equity	123.64	130.48	+ 3.92	2.48
Japan Growth	43.94	46.74	- 1.29	
Portfolio Gwth	73.13	77.38	+ 2.31	1.99
Pref Sm Cos Inc	39.17	41.46	+ 0.11	1.37
-do- Accum	41.95	44.40	+ 0.13	1.37
Retirement Inc #	31.76	33.79	+ 0.91	5.42
Special Sits	52.18	56.11	+ 1.08	2.61
UK & Overseas	69.55	73.69	+ 0.55	0.49
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD 01634 896 080				
Balanced	78.22	81.47	+ 1.16	3.79
Capital	94.07	98.54	+ 2.21	2.23
High Income	54.58	56.86	+ 0.29	6.51
Top 50	67.58	70.39	+ 2.47	2.29
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	208.38	217.09	+ 3.78	4.46
Long Gilt	47.13	49.07†	+ 0.12	5.70
Monthly Inc Plus	53.68	55.92	+ 0.84	8.01
Preference Share	50.73	52.85†	- 1.97	7.38
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	153.24	159.64†	+ 0.77	3.61
Managed Fund	84.87	88.21	+ 1.38	2.56
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	51.44	53.58	- 0.27	1.58
-do- Accum	61.51	64.08	- 0.83	1.58
UK & General	113.19	117.92	+ 3.53	2.38
-do- Accum	150.05	156.33	+ 4.70	2.38
UK Growth	223.78	233.15	+ 5.38	1.59
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	256.52	267.24	+ 2.67	0.50
Far Eastern Gth	137.55	143.30	- 2.14	0.02
Global Bond	72.49	75.42	- 0.82	5.81
Japan Growth	108.35	112.88	- 1.73	
North Amer Gth	287.28	299.28	+ 6.75	..
Oriental Growth	87.33	90.98	- 1.16	0.25
Worldwide Growth	81.95	85.37	+ 0.70	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.53	92.53	+ 0.08	5.70
Homeowner Fund	101.73	106.23	+ 1.68	1.99
Dollar Fund	172.47	183.50	+ 2.66	1.96
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	39.81	41.85	+ 1.65	3.79
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 0800 526 359				
Growth	193.90	206.90	+ 1.90	1.61
Income	80.58	85.70	+ 2.60	4.28
European	88.74	95.47	+ 0.85	0.17
Recovery	180.10	191.60	- 0.50	2.32
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1104.60	1129.00	-27.20	3.03
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 698 370				
Fellowship Tst	113.50	120.70	+ 0.10	1.13
Income #	312.10	332.00	+ 7.40	4.14
-do- Accum #	848.50	903.00	+20.00	4.14
Smaller Cos	224.00	238.20†	- 1.70	1.00
-do- Accum	279.80	297.60	- 2.10	1.00
Gilt Portfolio	109.20	116.10	+ 1.70	1.23
High Inc Port #	92.45	98.36	+ 2.41	4.24
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 470 1694				
Global Sm Cos	1791.70	1812.10	+ 2.30	..
UK Small Cos	2208.00	2256.70	- 3.80	2.99
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	236.50	245.90	+ 0.90	3.14
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD [illegible]				
UK Balanced Acc	199.80	212.60†	+ 6.10	1.52
UK High Inc Inc	211.30	224.70	+ 9.90	3.17
-do- Accum	294.60	313.30	+13.90	3.17
UK Pref & F I Inc	61.79	65.63†	+ 0.42	5.64
Emerging Opps	117.50	124.90†	+ 5.00	0.80
UK Smlr Cos #	71.60	76.16	- 0.30	0.88
Extra Income Inc	53.13	56.50	+ 0.30	6.17
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 898 528				
Convertibles #	23.51	24.98	+ 0.16	5.60
Enterprise	118.30	125.40	+ 0.40	1.99
Equity Income #	160.60	170.60	+ 8.20	3.75
European	74.83	79.05	+ 1.55	
Financial	68.59	72.86	+ 2.39	1.37
Growth & Inc #	329.50	350.10	+13.40	2.50
High Dist #	203.40	216.10	+ 7.80	3.58
International	467.90	497.10	+ 2.20	...
Inv Cap Inc	119.30	127.40	+ 0.80	2.12
Latin American	41.87	44.49	+ 0.20	...
Pacific	86.31	91.70	- 0.54	...
Pref High Inc	23.47	24.94	- 0.32	7.22
Tokyo	205.30	218.00	- 3.70	...
UK Smaller Cos	249.10	264.70	+ 0.60	1.13
Dundee Unit Trusts				
Japan Sm Cos	358.50	377.80	- 5.50	..
Nth Amer	502.35	531.60	+ 9.30	0.55
UK Inc & Gth	293.70	313.20	+12.60	2.37
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
BB Director Digs	125.32	134.03	- 0.70	0.96
Growth Acc	308.64	325.79		0.59
Income	622.20	665.45	+10.03	5.97
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	250.60	266.60	+ 0.10	1.03
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
European	108.15	114.89†	+ 0.80	1.56
Ethical Tst	52.54	55.30	+ 0.31	0.74
Far Eastern	313.70	330.21	- 3.83	1.47
High Income	159.22	167.60	+ 4.51	4.48
UK Index Trckg	62.67	65.97	+ 2.40	2.67
Intl Growth	154.84	162.99	- 0.01	0.67
North American	175.19	184.41	+ 1.99	1.62
Pelican	168.12	178.97	+ 5.41	2.73
Smaller Cos	70.12	73.81†	- 0.47	2.67
Special Sits	94.72	99.71	- 0.51	3.06
Tst of Inv Tsts	237.98	250.50	+ 1.10	1.36
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	115.19	122.22	+ 3.75	
Fd of Inv Tsts	57.51	61.02†	+ 0.48	0.47
High Income #	39.73	42.13†	- 1.00	11.87
Warr & Gl Opps	50.94	54.77	+ 0.92	..
Zero Preference	45.80	48.06†	- 2.90	..
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	110.70	117.70†	+ 3.80	2.51
United Charities	338.38	359.80	+ 5.50	1.85
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.80
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	26.27	27.23	- 0.15	5.37
Strategic Inc	28.90	30.39†	+ 0.49	5.62
Income Funds				
High Income	29.31	30.78†	+ 0.49	5.01
Income Plus	154.00	163.80†	+ 4.90	3.66
European Income	59.58	63.30	+ 0.92	2.15
Moneybuilder Gwth	36.77	39.10	+ 1.27	2.14
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	55.85	59.58	+ 0.74	..
American	373.90	396.80	+ 7.80	..
Amer Spec Sits	211.20	225.00	+ 6.30	
Japan Smaller Cos	26.79	28.49	- 0.27	..
European	274.10	291.50	- 0.10	0.46
European Opps	101.60	108.00	+ 0.60	0.52
Global Ptr	37.77	40.16	+ 0.55	0.41
UK Growth	142.20	151.30	+ 4.10	1.29
Growth & Inc	208.70	222.80	+ 7.20	2.15
Intl PEP	58.73	60.32†	+ 1.38	0.91
Japan Spec Sits	78.97	83.65	- 1.63	..
Japan	177.30	189.00	- 2.50	...
Managed Intl	418.00	444.10	+ 7.00	0.61
Moneybuilder Plus	73.32	77.86	+ 0.86	...
Recovery	66.12	70.31	+ 0.26	1.94
South E Asia	194.70	207.60	- 3.80	0.93
Special Sits	805.60	857.70	+ 3.70	0.51
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	119.86	119.86	+ 0.10	5.90
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	157.30	169.40	+ 1.70	3.63
Flexibury Prf Inc #	103.90	104.80†	+ 1.30	8.30
Cap Ptflo	186.60	198.20	+ 2.90	0.89
General Opps	157.70	159.10	+ 1.80	3.13
Growth Inc	44.57	45.81	+ 1.91	1.64
Premier Portfolio	537.90	538.50	- 0.50	1.15
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Dlg 01277 690 366 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smllr Cos	172.10	182.40	- 1.90	..
High Income	23.95	25.48	+ 0.00	6.85
Japan Smlr Cos	16.67	17.90	+ 0.34	
US Smaller Cos	476.40	507.30	+ 5.20	...
For Foster & Braithwaite see Gartmore				
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD Enq 0171 330 6600 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	89.06	94.36	+ 3.68	
-do- Accum	89.06	94.36	+ 3.68	
Amer Smllr Cos	700.70	747.80	+14.20	...
-do- Accum	715.30	763.66	+14.50	...
Capital Tst	397.80	422.30	- 0.10	1.26
-do- Accum	586.30	623.70	- 0.10	1.26
Cont Smllr Cos	64.13	68.41†	+ 0.20	0.97
-do- Accum	68.82	73.41†	+ 0.21	0.97
Convertible	142.80	151.70†	+ 0.30	5.17
-do- Accum	321.10	343.70†	+ 0.70	5.17
Emerging Markets	79.85	85.32	+ 0.88	0.54
-do- Accum	80.49	85.99	+ 0.47	0.54
European	178.20	189.80†	+ 1.20	0.40
-do- Accum	189.40	208.60†	+ 1.50	0.40
Extra Income	436.50	464.40	+ 9.80	4.02
-do- Accum	700.80	748.70	+15.70	4.02
Financial	213.50	227.10	+ 4.30	0.94
-do- Accum	235.60	249.70	+ 4.80	0.94
Gilt Trust	63.40	65.37	- 0.12	7.04
-do- Accum	101.60	104.70	- 0.20	7.04
Health Fund Inc	265.80	284.00	- 0.30	
-do- Accum	265.80	284.00	- 0.30	..
Income & Growth	252.90	268.00†	+ 4.90	4.09
-do- Accum	413.80	440.70†	+ 8.10	4.09
Intl Growth	463.40	493.10	+ 3.10	.
-do- Accum	514.50	547.50	+ 3.40	.
Japan & Gen	161.70	171.80	- 2.70	
-do- Accum	163.30	173.40	- 2.20	..
Monthly Inc #	221.80	236.00†	+ 5.20	4.76
-do- Accum #	227.50	242.00†	+ 5.30	4.76
Managed Port Inc	137.00	139.90	+ 1.42	1.29
-do- Accum	145.00	152.60	+ 3.73	1.29
Quarterly Income #	61.03	65.25†	+ 1.53	5.07
-do- Accum #	72.09	77.20†	+ 1.78	5.07
Recovery	353.00	377.50	+ 8.70	
-do- Accum	416.70	445.70	+ 0.90	
UK Growth	73.74	78.45†	+ 1.64	1.29
-do- Accum	81.48	86.68†	+ 1.27	1.29
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01722 715846 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	74.50	79.73	+ 2.15	...
FP Am Smlr Cos	212.60	226.70	+ 3.70	..
FP Asian Growth	293.70	313.70	- 2.20	
FP Australian	463.40	494.70	+ 7.90	..
FP Equity Dist	528.00	563.20	+20.10	2.02
-do- Accum	1191.00	1270.00	+45.00	2.02
FP Euro Gth	368.70	394.70	+ 4.60	
-do- Accum	395.20	421.50	+ 5.10	
FP Intl Bond	55.53	58.76	- 0.38	3.90
FP Intl Gth Dist	43.46	46.35	+ 0.73	
-do- Accum	63.84	68.09	+ 1.09	...
FP Pac Basin Acc	231.30	245.70	- 2.10	
FP Income #	66.70	71.14†	+ 3.11	4.32
-do- Accum #	242.40	259.50	+11.20	4.32
FP Jap Smlr Cos	247.90	254.40	- 3.40	
FP Monthly Dist #	82.98	88.19†	+ 2.15	4.72
FP Stlg Deposit	100.00	100.00†	- 1.00	5.13
FP Tokyo	77.12	82.26	- 1.45	
FP UK Focus	49.90	53.22	+ 2.18	1.36
FP UK Growth	233.10	248.60†	+ 7.30	1.65
-do- Accum	479.80	511.70	+20.60	1.65
Stewardship Dist	458.10	488.60	+ 6.00	1.31
-do- Accum	582.70	621.50	+ 7.60	1.31
Stewship Inc Dist #	78.79	84.04	+ 0.86	4.78
-do- Accum #	111.29	118.68	+ 1.20	4.78
N Am Stshp Dist	152.10	167.10	+ 3.20	..
-do- Accum	162.80	173.40	+ 3.50	..
FP Europe Trust				
Intl Ethical In #	116.80	117.38†	+ 3.10	2.90
Intl Ethical Ac #	118.10	118.60	+ 3.20	2.90
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	143.40	152.50	+ 1.50	0.56
Open Cap Gth Acc	145.70	155.90	+ 1.30	
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	129.10	137.30	+ 1.52	2.69
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	138.30	147.10	+ 1.60	2.69
Opn-Cp Gth Ic Ic #	133.40	141.50	+ 1.30	3.61
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	144.50	153.70	+ 1.40	3.61
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0345 581 1887				
GANDA	344.00	365.60	+ 9.50	1.58
Cash	49.57	50.32	+ 0.03	4.53
Growth Portfolio	103.30	109.90	- 0.20	
Income Portfolio	82.26	87.29	+ 0.62	2.93
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	233.40	249.60†	- 2.00	0.51
Dividend	112.60	120.40	+ 4.00	3.74
Int Gth & Inc	279.40	298.80†	- 1.60	1.32
UK & Emg	54.82	58.63	- 0.72	1.16
Fund of Funds	81.91	87.60	+ 0.70	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	222.80	238.10	+ 7.60	0.14
European Gth	856.70	910.30	- 3.10	0.52
Euro Eq & Fd Inc	58.48	61.97	- 3.58	3.85
-do- Accum	67.16	71.10	+ 0.66	3.85
High Yield #	52.74	55.72	+ 0.49	7.35
-do- Accum #	60.95	64.40	+ 0.57	7.35
Income Inc	219.30	234.60	+ 6.50	3.68
-do- Accum	254.70	272.50	+ 7.53	3.68
Intl Growth	413.70	438.90	+ 3.60	0.28
Intl Income	108.40	114.70	+ 1.90	2.06
Japan Growth	454.50	481.60	+ 2.10	..
Orient Acc	330.70	355.53	- 4.50	0.13
UK General Inc	208.70	223.50	+ 5.08	1.57
UK General Acc	375.50	401.30	+10.10	1.57
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	62.28	66.56	- 0.19	1.75
UK Spec Sits	114.30	122.30	+ 1.00	1.34
US Growth	222.00	234.60	+ 8.10	
Wwide Spec Sits	174.40	185.20†	+ 2.39	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	67.85	72.48	+ 2.39	1.88
Practical Inv Inc #	136.19	145.66	+ 2.17	3.30
-do- Accum #	331.03	354.04	+ 5.29	3.30
UK Index	211.90	212.96	+ 6.56	2.94
UK Smaller Cos	219.93	235.27	- 4.21	0.31
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.81	26.75	+ 0.09	6.84
High Income	39.71	42.34	+ 1.16	4.02
UK Growth & Inc	183.20	195.60	+ 5.11	2.44
Global Bond	27.30	28.32†	- 0.22	4.91
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	54.09	57.85	+ 0.25	.
Global Managed	161.84	171.90	+ 7.67	1.13
Gold & Intl Res	104.13	111.37†	- 0.44	
Global Utilities	173.71	185.43†	+ 5.23	0.76
Overseas Funds				
America	234.19	247.98†	+ 5.92	0.48
European	166.38	176.51	+ 0.95	0.45
Euro Sel Opps	256.74	272.82	+ 2.87	
Amer Emerging	183.47	195.39	+ 2.37	..
Hong Kong	217.52	232.66	- 8.43	0.74
Japan	211.20	223.65†	- 3.43	..
Pacific Growth	236.38	253.26†	- 1.81	..
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	290.79	290.79†	+ 3.50	1.69
Long Term Bal	307.20	307.20†	+ 2.88	2.59
Med Term Bal	249.55	249.55†	+ 2.27	2.50
UK Equity	347.74	347.74	+ 7.95	2.29
UK Emerging Cos	180.47	180.47†	- 2.24	2.17
America	401.01	401.01	+11.68	0.32
Japan	123.25	123.25	- 2.43	..
European	432.64	432.64	+ 4.07	0.69
Index Linked Gilt	195.12	195.12†	+ 1.96	2.62
Fixed Interest	192.36	192.36	+ 1.14	6.95
Amer Emerging	405.47	405.47	+ 6.94	.
Pacific	229.11	229.11†	- 0.79	0.90
Emerging Mkts	149.14	149.14	+ 0.85	0.60
Index Stkd Japan	130.34	130.34	- 2.89	0.22
-do- Pacific Rim	207.27	207.27	- 3.87	1.14
-do- Cont Europe	229.18	229.18	+ 1.94	1.20
Index Stkd USA	237.59	237.59	+ 5.83	1.23
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	137.45	146.22	+ 1.76	.
Med Term Bal	119.56	127.18	+ 1.16	.
Cash Trust	151.08	151.08	+ 0.13	5.72
Long Term Bal	138.81	147.66	+ 1.49	..
UK Equity	162.10	172.44	+ 4.01	...
UK Emerging Cos	85.17	90.60	- 1.11	...
American	186.22	198.11	+ 5.85	..
Japan	58.97	62.73	- 1.22	...
European	180.11	191.60	+ 1.84	
Fixed Interest	99.59	105.95	+ 0.63	..
Index Linked Gilt	87.02	92.57	+ 0.88	..
Deposit	91.20	97.01	+ 0.08	..
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	169.66	178.59	+ 0.87	0.49
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	740.84	788.13	+11.14	0.71
-do- Accum	840.93	894.51	+12.65	0.71
European Inc	205.93	218.78	+ 2.66	1.33
Amtigers Inc	180.33	191.84	+ 1.64	..
N America Inc	474.26	504.53	+ 8.00	...
Far East Inc	385.78	410.40	- 5.30	0.60
-do- Accum	400.48	425.95	- 5.51	0.68
UK Dvsfd Inc	233.62	248.53	+ 7.84	1.22
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7885				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	133.96	142.75	+ 2.70	
Do NAV to Jan 20	129.82	129.82		
UK Equity Safeguard	105.42	112.61	+ 1.78	2.47
Do NAV to Sep 19	101.73	101.73		
Gold	357.56	382.35	+ 7.08	5.50
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	340.70	362.49†	+16.90	1.79
British Growth	78.21	83.64	+ 1.85	1.43
UK Small Cos	73.55	78.66	+ 0.10	0.49
FTSE 250 Index	93.59	100.09	+ 0.39	2.11
Geared UK Index	2151.80	2271.71†	+204.00	5.80
Income Funds				
UK Equity Inc #	105.34	112.65	+ 0.23	4.24
Corp Bd	80.73	83.40	+ 0.23	
Monthly Inc	41.21	43.92†	+ 1.15	8.72
International Funds				
American Gen	261.40	297.80	+ 8.60	
American Strat	238.85	255.55	+ 3.77	
95 US Index	2165.09	2281.78†	+49.80	4.00
European Gen	328.48	346.50	+ 1.70	0.71
European Strat	137.98	147.56	+ 2.62	
Japan Gen	151.10	159.40	- 2.10	
Japan Strat	51.73	55.31	- 0.67	
Asia Pacific	101.97	109.04	- 0.29	
Pacific Strat	172.22	184.10	+ 2.24	
Greater China	291.92	312.20	- 8.91	
Latin America	126.86	135.78	+ 1.95	
Intl Growth	177.39	189.71	+ 2.34	
Balanced Exempt	148.60	154.00		2.38
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 539 5668				
European	701.40	749.20†	+ 6.90	
Gilt & Fixed	137.00	145.30	+ 0.70	5.40
Growth Equity	498.50	530.40	+12.10	1.26
Income Trust	172.20	182.90†	+ 6.00	3.75
International	231.80	247.60	+ 3.30	..
Japan Trust	115.60	123.50	- 2.50	..
Nth American	417.50	446.00	+11.80	
Pacific	591.80	632.20	- 1.00	0.02
Guardhill	734.90	785.10	+21.00	1.16
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
Emg Trust	86.28	89.93	- 1.34	5.29
Global High Inc	93.76	97.31	- 0.42	5.24
Corporate Bond	109.13	113.28†	- 0.70	6.87
Eqty & Bond Inc	122.14	129.86†	+ 0.11	4.70
European Growth	155.22	165.04	+ 1.79	
Intl PEP Trust	82.78	88.03	+ 0.74	0.72
Equity Inc	152.65	167.82	+ 4.91	3.29
-do- Accum	237.20	252.21	+ 7.39	3.29
Recovery	456.30	483.80	+ 4.70	2.78
-do- Accum	547.70	582.35	+ 5.70	2.78
St Vinc High Inc	138.68	148.78	+ 3.35	5.84
UK Emerg Cos	328.00	340.30	- 0.90	2.88
UK Smlr Cos	412.70	438.00†	- 7.50	3.25
Glob Pfolr Tst	148.57	157.97	+ 1.85	0.75
-do- Accum	154.47	164.25	+ 1.94	0.75
Inc Share Tst	98.41	102.51	+ 0.76	2.40
Small Cos	102.31	108.76	- 0.30	2.08
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5850				
Balanced Inc	61.13	64.82	+ 1.31	3.15
Balanced Acc	65.89	69.77	+ 1.47	3.15
Growth	37.85	40.24	+ 1.06	1.81
Growth Acc	39.53	41.91	+ 1.11	1.81
Income	35.74	37.90†	+ 0.77	4.05
Income Acc	39.26	41.63	+ 0.84	4.05
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Accumulation Tst	31.85	33.64	+ 1.00	2.85
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
High Provider	102.50	106.40†	+ 0.50	6.34
Model Ptflo	278.30	294.10	+ 8.50	2.00
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 690 290 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Pref Acc	48.33	51.83	+ 0.54	2.93
HENDERSON INVESTORS Enquiries: 0645 464848 Dealing: 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	384.28	411.17	+ 3.91	0.90
Best of British	83.86	88.25	+ 2.25	2.32
UK Smaller Cos	155.78	167.48	- 1.34	1.19
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	354.81	377.83†	+12.00	3.82
-do- Accum #	1020.00	1097.76	+34.91	3.82
High Income	381.99	411.54	+11.84	4.26
Extra Income #	326.64	347.37†	+ 9.48	6.26
Pref & Bond	51.80	53.53	+ 0.18	8.00
International				
Ethical	130.65	139.73	+ 1.16	1.45
International	368.88	392.88	+ 3.15	..
Global Bond	52.85	55.43†	- 0.39	4.97
Intl Prof Tst	109.83	117.43†	+ 0.65	
Global Tech	235.80	252.10	+ 4.55	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	203.14	217.27†	- 0.39	0.14
European	757.60	802.46	+ 0.78	0.49
European Income #	106.11	112.35	- 0.58	5.28
Euro Smlr Cos	222.05	236.86	- 2.08	0.21
European Value	107.11	114.03	+ 0.56	.
-do- Accum	115.66	123.14	+ 0.61	..
Japan Trust	202.77	215.75	- 4.31	.
Japan Smlr Cos	182.20	194.72	- 2.68	
Pacific Smlr Cos	239.54	256.20	- 5.10	
North American	388.16	411.62†	+ 8.82	.
American Smaller	197.28	209.83	+ 5.10	.
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	175.50	184.80	- 0.10	4.61
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
Britain	145.42	153.32	+ 6.35	1.45
Capital	230.82	241.71	+ 5.22	1.21
Dollar	593.36	621.32	+17.78	..
Enterprise Gth	458.38	479.98	+ 8.57	0.76
European	327.17	342.59†	+ 0.92	.
Far East	298.21	312.26	- 7.85	0.43
Financial	1319.72	1381.97	+52.90	1.14
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.70	28.81	+ 0.15	6.50
High Yield #	128.68	134.75†	+ 5.69	4.35
Income & Growth #	192.74	201.35	+ 8.05	3.27
International	329.73	345.27	+ 4.07	0.32
Japanese General	187.22	196.05	- 1.92	..
Japan Tech	86.83	90.86	- 0.44	
Nat Resources	75.40	78.95	- 1.20	0.67
Portfolio	92.17	96.51	+ 2.05	1.27
Special Sits	224.99	235.59	+ 1.77	0.26
UK Emerging Cos	130.24	136.36	- 0.30	1.14
UK Smaller Cos	170.02	178.03†	+ 2.54	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	747.20	798.00	+27.70	4.25
UK Growth	812.50	873.30	+35.40	1.74
High Income #	130.50	139.36†	+ 3.18	5.46
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	751.20	794.10	+20.80	0.26
European Gwth	181.70	192.90	+ 1.00	0.19
Japan Gwth	277.30	298.40	- 3.70	
Japan Smlr Cos	29.15	31.11	- 0.76	
Asian	63.55	67.82	- 0.80	
Sing & Malay Gwth	80.64	86.06	- 0.38	
Hong Kong Gwth	221.29	235.80	- 9.10	0.14
Global Bond	20.53	21.02†	- 0.56	4.85
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	196.50	197.50†	+ 3.40	3.13
Tokyo Index	132.80	135.40	+ 0.60	2.55
THE FOOTSIE FUND	80.10	80.50†	+ 3.27	2.46
Index Funds-International				
American Index	359.70	361.50	- 9.40	0.75
Eurotrack 100	240.80	242.30	+ 2.40	0.97
Japan Index	68.46	66.60	- 1.62	0.13
Tiger Index	184.00	182.20	+ 2.85	0.08
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	52.83	55.15	- 0.12	1.34
General Funds				
Managed Dist	98.9*	103.20	+ 1.30	1.00
Managed	102.50	107.00	+ 1.39	1.00
Target Child Fnd	125.23	130.60	+ 4.50	1.76
UK Growth	80.65	84.23	+ 1.89	1.50
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	98.40	102.80	+ 1.50	5.36
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.80	28.63†	+ 0.12	7.57
UK Inc & Gwth	55.27	57.53	+ 1.40	2.72
UK Income #	420.30	439.00	+ 7.80	4.21
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	72.06	75.30	+ 2.17	
Amer Smlr Cos	174.60	182.20†	+ 2.50	.
-do- Accum	176.50	184.10†	+ 2.60	.
Europe Gth	280.60	292.60	+ 3.50	
-do- Accum	298.00	303.10	+ 3.70	
Euro Smaller Cos	50.05	52.11	+ 0.15	
French Growth	112.50	116.90	- 0.10	0.05
-do- Accum	121.80	126.50	- 0.10	0.05
H Kong & China	145.80	151.90	- 6.30	0.78
Intl Growth	78.88	82.17	+ 0.88	0.35
-do- Accum	80.27	83.71	+ 0.88	0.35
Japan Gth	27.30	28.45†	- 0.47	
-do- Accum	27.30	28.45†	- 0.47	
Japan Smaller Cos	31.06	32.42	- 0.39	
Glob Emg Mkts	112.90	117.18†	+ 1.30	.
-do- Accum	112.90	117.90†	+ 1.20	.
SE Asia	371.20	387.70	- 2.36	.
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	48.22	50.39†	- 0.26	6.74
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690640				
UK Income #	125.60	134.08†	+ 7.00	3.04
UK Growth	130.10	138.50†	+ 7.00	1.52
Fry S Europe	111.00	116.70	+ 2.10	1.91
Slater Gwth	202.50	216.00	- 2.10	0.93
New Japan	87.23	92.14	- 2.27	
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3030				
World Health	196.70	209.20†	- 5.00	.
Income #	243.19	258.71†	- 2.73	4.01
UK Growth	93.24	99.19†	- 0.27	1.87
Intl Growth	95.84	101.95	+ 0.49	0.55
Ecology	111.43	118.54	+ 1.10	0.74
European	239.47	253.43†	- 1.06	0.28
Far Eastern	333.40	354.68†	+ 0.39	
UK Special Sits	60.81	64.86	+ 0.77	0.87
Fd of Inv Tsts	59.61	63.56	+ 0.51	0.53
High Income #	56.40	60.15	+ 1.33	4.66
Financial Opps	48.85	52.10	+ 1.79	.

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	104.70	108.38†	+ 8.50	6.55
Euro Pav Inc	119.70	127.30†	+ 1.60	2.75
-do- Accum	119.90	127.60†	+ 1.90	2.75
Gilt Yield	122.98	129.60†	+ 0.30	6.24
Global Income	258.40	272.80	+ 3.10	2.94
High Yield	188.50	208.50†	+ 7.10	4.65
-do- Accum	642.00	683.00†	+30.60	4.65
Money Market	100.35	100.35†	+ 0.06	5.81
Smlr Cos Div	63.99	68.07	+ 0.84	3.80
Tomorrows-Co Ex Acc	1109.00	1126.00†	+44.00	..
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	177.70	189.00	+ 4.30	.
Asian Growth	321.60	342.10	- 0.20	.
-do- Accum	378.00	402.10	- 0.20	..
North American	129.50	138.08†	+ 3.20	
European Special	152.10	161.80†	+ 2.30	1.83
European	214.80	228.50†	+ 2.20	0.56
-do- Accum	285.70	303.90†	+ 2.90	0.56
Global Eqty Inc	138.20	146.70	+ 2.20	1.90
Japan	375.10	399.00	- 7.90	
Japanese Special	200.80	213.60	- 2.10	
Smaller Cos	153.70	163.50†	+ 0.70	0.96
UK Equity Growth	63.15	67.19	+ 1.38	1.06
UK Index Inc	394.30	396.30	+12.10	3.35
Bloxham Tst	117.80	126.60†	..	1.50
-do- Accum	119.80	128.70†	.	1.50
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	353.06	375.60	+18.91	4.40
Eck Growth	113.15	120.37	+ 3.00	1.25
Inc & Growth	77.39	82.32†	+ 0.56	3.64
Smaller Cos	98.51	104.80	+ 0.53	1.20
Ever Spec Sit Inc	60.37	64.22	.	1.79
Ever Spec Sit Acc	63.25	67.39	- 1.04	1.79
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01277 690 432				
UK Cap	515.80	547.30	+ 9.60	1.59
UK Inc/Gth #	557.70	591.70	+14.20	3.24
UK Income #	387.30	410.90†	+ 7.90	4.11
UK Sm Cos	298.00	317.40	- 7.70	1.86
Euro Gwth	189.60	201.20	+ 3.60	0.14
N Amer Gwth	143.80	152.50	+ 3.40	
Pacific Growth	12.05	12.79†	- 0.36	0.37
Emg Mkts Gwth	95.76	101.80	+ 0.14	.
Japan Growth	54.45	57.72	- 0.84	
Dealing: 01277 842 626				
Gwth Port Inc	79.75	84.17	+ 0.98	0.63
Gwth Port Acc	81.09	85.58	+ 1.00	0.62
Inc Port Inc	70.54	74.45	+ 1.38	3.66
Inc Port Acc	80.17	84.61	+ 1.58	3.58
Wwide Port	64.34	67.91	- 0.83	..
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist @	691.80	691.80†	+22.50	2.36
-do- Accum @	1442.00	1442.00†	+47.08	2.36
Equity Income #	116.70	116.70	+ 3.80	4.64
UK Tactical Allocn @	80.81	80.81†	+ 2.61	4.37
European @	175.40	175.40	+ 1.40	0.53
Far Eastern @	239.40	239.40	..	.
Fixed Interest @	56.85	56.85†	+ 0.20	6.37
Gilt @	94.88	94.88	+ 0.32	6.12
Global Growth @	89.69	89.69†	+ 0.08	0.31
Intl Bond @	48.72	48.72	- 0.47	4.80
Japanese @	68.15	68.15	- 1.26	.
North American @	265.68	265.68	+ 7.20	0.34
Pacific Growth @	125.90	125.90	- 2.10	0.22
Pacific Index @	48.84	48.84	- 0.83	2.01
UK Index @	90.54	90.54	+ 2.86	2.85
UK Recovery @	128.78	128.70	+ 2.50	1.46
UK Smaller Cos @	164.40	164.40†	+ 2.90	1.36
US Index @	104.20	104.20†	+ 2.40	0.93
European Index @	111.80	111.80	+ 0.90	1.28
Japan Index @	35.23	35.23†	- 0.75	.
Worldwide @	110.40	110.40†	+ 1.70	1.36
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS 01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623				
Growth	66.13	70.72†	+ 2.81	2.07
Income	77.03	82.38†	+ 3.08	3.82
Far East	48.69	52.07	- 0.40	.
North American	152.40	162.50	+ 3.90	
Global	102.80	109.90	+ 0.48	0.29
European	118.50	126.50	+ 0.30	0.63
Japan	89.02	95.15	- 1.37	
Intl Currency Bd	55.92	59.22	- 0.35	5.41
SE Asia	101.50	108.50	- 1.08	0.40
UK Cap Growth	119.30	127.50	+ 4.30	1.30
Recovery Trust	97.62	104.40	+ 0.50	1.93
Managed	80.03	85.59	+ 0.51	1.38
Cash	50.82	50.82	+ 0.05	5.74
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD Helpdesk: 01634 834 330 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	481.09	511.80	+20.10	1.86
-do- Accum	1160.00	1235.00	+48.00	1.86
Contl Euro Gth	94.32	99.28	- 0.05	0.03
-do- Accum	102.20	107.60		0.03
Extra Inc #	330.38	351.40	+11.20	3.58
Extra Inc Acc #	936.50	996.30	+31.60	3.58
FTSE 100 Inc	151.60	161.30	+ 7.50	2.11
FTSE 100 Acc	158.30	168.50	+ 7.80	2.11
German Gth	167.90	176.60	- 1.40	.
-do- Accum	176.10	185.40	- 1.48	..
Growth Port	743.40	790.80	+ 9.10	0.16
-do- Accum	774.70	824.20	+ 9.40	0.16
High Interest Inc	105.40	109.29†	+ 0.90	6.89
High Interest Acc	146.00	121.10	+ 1.10	6.69
Hi Reserve Inc #	117.90	125.10†	+ 3.20	5.75
Hi Reserve Acc #	132.70	141.20	+ 3.60	5.75
Income Inc #	652.40	694.10	+28.90	3.20
Income Acc #	1894.00	2015.00	+82.00	3.20
Income Port	629.40	680.55	+19.90	4.21
-do- Accum	736.90	784.80	+22.90	4.21
Japan Growth	96.25	102.32	- 1.67	
-do- Accum	96.90	103.20	- 1.80	
Master Trust	74.40	79.16	+ 1.61	1.35
-do- Accum	87.45	93.01	+ 1.90	1.35
Midlander Acc	306.80	327.70†		0.76
N American Gen	294.10	312.30	-10.40	
-do- Accum	343.45	365.75	-11.70	
Nth Sm Co Rec	204.05	217.45	- 1.30	
-do- Accum	209.15	222.55	- 1.45	
Pacific Basin	245.15	260.85	- 1.65	0.27
-do- Accum	251.25	267.05	- 1.70	0.27
Safety First Acc	106.80	112.50	- 1.50	[illegible]
Do gted 12/5/98 z	[illegible]			
Small Cos Rec	624.15	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	720.85	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Eq Gth	194.95	207.40	[illegible]	2.21
UK Eq Inc #	153.70	162.50	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Growth	423.90	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.52
-do- Accum	556.25	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.52
Worldwide Gth	399.95	425.45	- 4.70	0.33
-do- Accum	591.50	[illegible]	- 5.50	[illegible]
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 673				
American	107.00	114.30†	[illegible]	[illegible]
General	125.52	133.10	[illegible]	2.30
Income	84.39	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.60
International	31.83	[illegible]	- 0.44	[illegible]
Japan	53.80	[illegible]	[illegible]	
1st of Inv Trusts	84.42	[illegible]	- 2.72	[illegible]
M & G SECURITIES Cust Serv/Ret Dlg 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	602.30	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	762.30	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amer Recovery	735.60	[illegible]	- 9.90	
-do- Accum	820.70	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Amer Smlr Cos	171.90	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Accum	174.70	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Australasian	225.50	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	267.70	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Capital	1046.25	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	1282.16	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Charifund	884.40	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	4734.40	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Commodity	465.75	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	688.62	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Compound Gth	1311.90	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	1356.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Corporate Bond	27.45	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dividend	422.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	2223.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Equity Income	348.90	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	434.40	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Euro & General	242.90	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.49
-do- Accum	328.60	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.49
Euro Dividend	92.50	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	118.75	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Euro Smlr Cos	57.10	[illegible]	- 0.63	[illegible]
-do- Accum	57.30	[illegible]	- 0.65	[illegible]
Extra Yield	521.96	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	1791.60	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fund of Inv Tsts	782.10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	1527.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
General	79.70	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	242.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gilt Income	85.77	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	207.50	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gold	56.86	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	67.90	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
High Income	36.60	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	182.80	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Intl Growth	121.70	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	175.30	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
International Inc	123.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.56
-do- Accum	240.32	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Japan & Gen	38.00	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Accum	38.60	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Japan Smlr Cos	125.00	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Accum	125.90	137.30	[illegible]	
Managed Gwth	29.00	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Managed Income	32.42	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Midland	58.30	[illegible]	- 0.59	[illegible]
-do- Accum	205.70	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pension Ex	1305.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Recovery	49.72	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	97.80	[illegible]	- 2.95	[illegible]
Second General	79.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Accum	227.50	[illegible]	- 3.38	[illegible]
Smaller Cos	62.50	67.30	- 2.20	1.42
-do- Accum	133.70	141.50	- 0.42	1.42
Sth East Asia	411.60	435.20	- 5.10	1.06
-do- Accum	552.30	584.10	- 6.90	1.06
Treasury	25.15	25.16†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Trustee	47.90	50.70	+ 1.37	4.54
-do- Accum	212.70	224.90	+ 5.63	4.54
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	122.06	129.79	- 0.52	0.23
Intl Bond	60.86	63.94	- 0.25	4.11
Intl Equity Growth	95.86	101.92	- 0.32	0.44
N Amer Growth	162.44	172.34	+ 4.45	0.62
Special Sits Growth	32.18	34.23	- 1.03	2.09
UK Growth	535.28	569.44	+13.80	2.50
-do- Accum	746.07	794.32	+26.24	2.50
NW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1555.70	1577.50	- 2.50	2.70
Income #	1127.78	1145.10†	- 2.32	4.30
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	181.90	186.00†		3.70
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 0800 363432				
High Inc #	180.40	183.50	+ 1.30	6.32
M & S Inv Ptflo	198.80	204.60†	+ 1.30	2.29
-do- Accum	240.70	248.10†	+ 4.99	2.29
UK Sel Ptflo	182.30	188.00†	+ 6.20	2.22
-do- Accum	224.30	231.20†	+ 7.60	2.22
UK 100 Cos	142.90	142.90	+ 5.60	2.34
-do- Accum	146.50	146.50	+ 5.70	2.34
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	73.31	77.58	+ 0.07	3.11
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	95.50	101.60†	+ 2.06	3.40
European	123.10	130.70	+ 0.50	0.32
Income #	97.04	102.00	+ 2.90	3.98
Nth American	116.10	123.10†	+ 3.40	0.01
Far East	196.50	210.73†	- 1.70	0.16
Japan	64.73	68.72	- 0.90	
Emerging Mkts	105.70	113.00	- 0.56	.
Intl Growth	154.90	164.10	+ 1.10	0.38
UK Growth	138.80	147.30	+ 2.30	2.17
UK Smlr Co	63.08	65.96	+ 0.07	2.86
Asia Pacific	41.82	44.73†	- 0.52	0.46
Glob Gwth PEP	74.19	78.75	+ 0.53	0.57
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	112.30	119.50	+ 0.90	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	547.38	582.71	+20.72	2.01
Global Inc	84.56	89.96	+ 1.16	3.34
Brit Leaders Inc	432.99	460.63	+13.30	1.57
Intl Leaders	271.06	288.36	+ 5.05	0.51
PAM Mg Bal Gth	75.89	79.01	+ 0.35	0.34
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	329.90	347.60	+11.00	
-do- Accum	352.80	371.70	+11.80	
American Opps	129.10	137.50	+ 1.60	
-do- Accum	130.70	139.20	+ 1.50	
British Blue Chip	114.90	122.08	+ 5.10	2.47
-do- Accum	149.80	159.00	+ 6.50	2.47
Cash	101.00	101.00	+ 0.10	6.03
-do- Accum	153.20	153.20	+ 0.10	6.03
Emerging Mkts	160.00	172.00†	+ 1.60	0.60
-do- Accum	162.30	174.50†	+ 1.50	0.60
European Growth	395.30	419.30	+ 0.92	0.45
-do- Accum	432.10	457.10	+ 1.00	0.45
European Income	98.47	103.90†	+ 0.50	3.94
-do- Accum	146.30	154.50†	+ 0.70	3.94
General	674.40	717.20	+16.00	2.29
-do- Accum	1398.00	1486.00	+32.00	2.29
Global Bond	125.70	132.90	- 0.50	3.40
-do- Accum	170.70	179.40	- 0.60	3.40
Gold & General	156.50	168.10†	-11.10	0.44
-do- Accum	162.00	174.00†	-11.40	0.44
Govt Securities	97.07	100.80†	+ 0.32	5.49
-do- Accum	213.60	220.20†	+ 0.90	5.49
High Yield Bd	105.50	108.00†	+ 0.30	6.53
-do- Accum	116.73	119.83†	+ 0.40	6.53
Income	219.80	233.50	+ 9.30	3.85
-do- Accum	373.10	398.40	+15.70	3.85
Inc Portfolio #	122.70	129.80†	+ 1.70	4.93
-do- Accum #	138.50	148.50†	+ 3.20	4.93
Intl Opps	629.40	670.33†	+ 5.75	0.74
-do- Accum	853.70	910.60†	+ 6.80	0.74
Japan	171.80	183.30	- 3.00	
-do- Accum	176.40	188.70	- 3.20	
New Europe	273.90	292.27	+ 1.10	0.96
-do- Accum	287.50	306.70	+ 1.10	0.96
Pacific	114.90	122.63†	- 1.70	0.45
-do- Accum	124.00	132.30†	- 1.70	0.45
Recovery	514.00	548.20	+ 4.60	1.55
-do- Accum	684.50	730.18	+ 6.00	1.55
UK Smaller Cos	62.76	66.94	+ 0.49	1.52
-do- Accum	72.61	77.45	+ 0.54	1.52
Portfolio	104.80	111.00	+ 2.60	2.63
-do- Accum	130.90	132.90	+ 2.40	2.63
Managed Gth	136.20	142.50†	+ 2.60	1.78
Managed Inc	131.29	136.10†	+ 2.90	3.96
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 01707 662 228				
Enterprise Plus	187.02	198.96	+ 0.22	0.12
Portfolio	91.82	97.69†	+ 2.58	1.23
UK Income Inc	107.67	114.54	+ 4.29	4.33
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enq 0345 456 123 Dlg 0345 456 126				
Balanced	77.14	82.77	+ 1.42	2.57
-do- Accum	86.33	90.40	+ 1.59	2.57
British Tst	127.80	133.80	+ 4.30	1.55
-do- Accum	156.30	163.70	+ 5.40	1.55
Corp Bond Inc	102.90	106.60	+ 0.30	6.42
-do- Accum	109.60	113.60	+ 0.40	6.42
Extra High Inc	77.45	81.10†	+ 0.46	6.30
-do- Accum #	174.00	182.20†	+ 3.30	6.30
FTSE 100 Acc	86.71	90.90†	+ 3.72	2.48
FTSE 100 Dist	79.81	83.57†	+ 2.42	2.48
Gilt & Fxd Int	57.72	60.06†	+ 0.19	6.31
-do- Accum	191.30	199.10†	+ 0.70	6.31
High Yield	267.10	279.70	+ 7.60	5.33
-do- Accum #	786.20	822.90	+21.70	5.33
Household Names	106.60	111.20	+ 3.80	1.29
Income	374.80	392.50	+ 9.90	4.07
-do- Accum #	894.10	936.20	+23.50	4.07
Money Market UT	49.67	49.68	+ 0.08	5.63
-do- Accum	85.93	85.95	+ 0.14	5.62
Monthly Income	106.90	111.30†	+ 2.10	4.21
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
Cash	167.90	174.42†	+ 6.70	1.89
European Growth	163.80	173.70†	+ 0.53	
Gilt & Fixed	107.70	114.27†	+ 0.30	6.15
Income	122.50	130.30†	+ 3.30	3.97
Japan Growth	45.17	47.82†	- 1.49	
Managed	96.16	100.70†	+ 1.03	2.39
Money Market	99.11	105.19†	+ 0.20	5.20
North American	134.10	142.10†	+ 2.03	
Midland FTSE/CS Unit Trust				
British	149.70	158.70†	+ 6.20	1.89
European Growth	153.70	162.90†	+ 0.40	
Gilt & Fixed Inc	100.90	107.30†	+ 0.40	6.15
Income	119.90	127.60†	+ 3.80	3.97
Japan Growth	44.98	47.66†	- 1.43	
Managed	94.51	98.79†	+ 1.58	2.37
Money Market	91.30	96.92†	- 0.17	5.70
North American	120.20	127.50†	- 2.60	
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	147.50	156.93†	- 6.20	1.89
European Growth	150.70	159.25†	+ 0.40	
Gilt & Fixed Int	90.21	96.31†	- 0.30	6.16
Income	115.80	124.30†	+ 4.10	3.96
Japan Growth	46.30	49.08†	1.48	..
Managed	92.29	98.29†	+ 2.39	2.37
Money Market	82.76	87.74†	+ 0.14	5.36
North American	134.50	142.70†	+ 2.90	
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	550.60	582.80†	+17.90	
European Gth Inc	636.10	676.60†	- 0.20	
-do- Accum	643.10	680.00†	- 0.20	
Intl Gwth	269.70	284.30	+ 3.00	
UK Equity Inc	250.80	266.90	+ 5.80	3.88
-do- Accum	347.40	369.70	+ 8.10	3.88
UK Growth Inc	145.80	156.30	+ 3.70	3.05
-do- Accum	150.10	161.70	+ 3.90	3.05
UK Inc Trstr Inc	229.90	244.40	+ 7.70	2.75
-do- Accum	288.00	305.30	+ 9.50	2.75
US Eq Inc Trs Inc	347.00	366.50	+ 9.60	0.89
Japan Trustee	63.97	67.48		1.57
Asian Trustee	237.40	251.00	- 2.80	0.29
Mngd Ptflo Inc	209.10	222.90†	+ 3.40	1.60
Mngd Ptflo Acc	227.50	246.80†	+ 4.20	1.60
Deposit Inc	100.27	100.27†	+ 0.09	6.35
Europa	265.00	281.70	- 4.50	
Genesis	214.90	[illegible]	- 0.30	2.43
High Income	21.00	22.37†	- 0.24	10.00
Japan Growth	95.21	101.10	- 1.70	
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 090 933				
Acumen	127.90	133.40	+ 1.60	1.23
Acumen Inc	108.80	115.00	+ 1.40	1.23
Acumen Income	102.60	109.60	- 0.20	6.95
-do- Inc	76.92	77.75	- 0.14	6.95
American Growth	82.17	85.78	- 0.17	
Equity Income #	121.50	129.00†	- 4.90	3.65
European	99.79	107.60	- 0.10	0.07
Smaller Cos	99.25	102.80	+ 0.50	1.94
Wwide Eqty	88.94	90.75	+ 0.02	
Global Bond	41.00	41.44	- 0.26	4.63
UK Growth	129.90	133.60	- 2.70	1.07
Pacific Growth	117.50	120.40†	- 1.70	0.91
Japan Growth	95.01	97.37†	0.11	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 330 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Fam Equity	171.55	182.53†	+ 2.63	2.28
For M&P see Abbey National				
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS 0171 623 4200				
American Dist	149.10	157.70†	+ 2.60	
European Dist	173.90	184.40	+ 0.70	0.12
Far East Dist	184.85	194.50		
Global Care Dist	94.91	99.91†	+ 1.22	0.63
Intnl Dist	1234.10	1238.00	- 2.00	
-do- Accum	1622.70	1667.10	- 2.70	
UK Dist	509.70	527.00	-15.10	1.94
-do- Accum	1025.90	1080.40	-31.30	1.84
UK Extra Inc Dist	103.40	108.80	- 2.30	3.58
Wwide Dist	130.90	137.70	- 1.40	
Wwide Inc Dist	95.81	101.90	- 0.58	1.62
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Dlg: 01277 690 280 Admin Enq 01277 690 398				
Europe Inc	96.27	107.60	- 0.80	0.31
Fund of Funds Inc	77.67	81.97†	+ 0.89	1.22
North America Inc	79.04	83.42	+ 2.06	0.11
UK Equity Gth Inc	78.72	83.08	+ 2.56	1.94
-do- Accum	86.35	91.13	+ 2.79	1.94
UK General Inc	77.45	81.74	+ 2.42	1.97
-do- Accum	86.83	91.61	+ 2.72	1.97
UK Gilt/Fx Int Inc	48.31	50.88†	- 0.77	6.17
UK Income Inc	75.45	79.62	+ 2.78	3.01
UK Smlr Cos Inc	119.30	125.90	- 0.40	1.17
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0500 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 800				
American	58.79	62.54	- 0.54	
-do- Accum	59.25	63.03	+ 0.55	
Bond	127.87	135.72†	+ 0.16	5.64
Cash Income	50.42	50.42	+ 0.05	5.70
-do- Accum	71.38	71.38	+ 0.07	5.70
Challenger	92.21	95.12	- 0.98	1.79
Distributor	118.07	125.60†	+ 3.46	2.67
European	69.31	73.73†	+ 0.75	
Foundation	121.63	129.39	+ 0.47	2.22
General Inc	260.36	276.97†	- 2.64	1.04
General Acc	265.98	292.95†	- 0.69	1.04
Growth Inc	158.32	168.42	+ 0.62	1.81
Growth Acc	164.21	174.69	+ 0.65	1.81
Higher Income Inc	37.00	39.36	+ 1.01	4.70
-do- Accum	45.88	48.80	+ 1.25	4.70
Income	312.82	332.78†	+ 7.56	2.90
Interaid	167.58	174.56†	- 2.05	1.44
Intl Gwth	44.89	47.75	+ 0.19	
Japan	28.52	30.34	- 0.78	
Oriental Inc	157.05	167.08	- 0.36	0.29
-do- Accum	162.68	173.06	- 0.37	0.29
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD 0191 285 2555				
High Income #	53.18	56.28†	+ 0.40	5.79
UK Growth	129.20	136.70	+ 1.60	2.61
NORWICH UNION 1ST MANAGERS 01603 682 234				
Master Trust	158.71	167.06	+ 1.94	1.27
UK Equity	196.23	206.56	+ 5.52	2.57
UK Equity Income	173.75	182.90†	+ 4.87	3.41
UK Smaller Cos	147.52	155.28†	- 0.47	1.38
UK Equity Growth	169.21	178.12	- 1.73	1.05
UK Index Trckg	198.59	209.59	+ 5.67	2.43
WB Index Trckg	196.35	207.23	+ 1.98	0.60
International	310.37	326.70	+ 2.69	0.57
European	302.23	318.14	+ 0.88	0.02
Pan European	201.97	212.60†	+ 3.77	0.90
Nth American	282.29	297.15	+ 5.66	0.31
N Amer Smlr Cos	287.83	302.98†	- 3.30	
Japanese	91.06	95.85†	- 1.32	
Pacific	239.38	251.98†	- 1.44	0.37
South East Asian	276.67	291.22	- 2.91	0.46
Sterling Bond	104.42	109.92†	+ 0.50	6.54
Intl Bond	123.59	130.09	- 0.94	4.54
Gilt & Convertible	113.18	119.14†	+ 0.47	6.14
Property	87.05	91.64†	+ 0.19	5.96
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD 01256 768 888				
European Inc	400.10	429.10	+ 5.40	0.04
-do- Accum	425.20	456.10	+ 5.80	0.04
Japan Inc	97.78	103.70	- 2.30	
Nth American Inc	189.60	200.70	+ 4.50	0.61
Worldwide Inc	306.80	328.40	+ 2.10	0.23
Hong Kong Inc	227.20	242.40	- 6.70	0.65
Swiss Equities Inc	109.80	117.20	+ 0.80	
Worlds Bond Inc	66.77	70.60	- 0.29	4.98
Emerging Asia Inc	196.90	212.10	- 0.50	0.17
-do- Accum	197.60	213.00	- 0.60	0.17
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.39	50.39	+ 0.04	5.27
Thailand Inc	81.08	87.30	+ 7.56	2.73
New Zealand Inc	105.30	112.90	+ 1.00	2.25
Inc Mngd PEP Inc	81.84	87.58	+ 1.63	0.62
Latin Am Cmp Inc	89.46	95.82	+ 0.89	0.51
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	82.40	83.74	+ 2.60	2.10
Broker Unit Trusts				
Way Global Blue	91.10	96.92	+ 0.41	
Global Portfolio	79.96	85.52†	+ 0.92	
Way Global Ret	71.67	76.24	+ 0.11	...
Marsh Global Gth	69.30	73.49	+ 0.36	
AMP Ext Gwth Inc	123.10	131.80	+ 2.60	0.82
Temple Equity Inc	51.95	56.44†	- 0.45	2.04
Hartley Growth	132.70	140.60	+ 0.80	0.31
Intl Growth Inc	89.24	95.44	+ 0.88	
IPS Portfolio Inc	103.80	111.00	+ 0.20	
Roxburgh Strat Gth	80.47	86.06	+ 0.02	
UFC Growth	71.20	76.15	+ 0.62	
Chartfield Port of Fds	58.88	62.47†	+ 0.21	
PM UT MGRS LTD 0171 588 3963				
Equity Gth	258.20	274.70	+ 6.00	0.86
European Gth	158.90	168.30	- 0.10	0.25
Income & Gth #	178.40	189.80	+ 6.10	2.79
Japan Gth	100.80	107.20	- 1.90	
Nth Amer Gth	269.50	285.80	+ 7.30	0.09
Overseas Gth	141.90	150.80		
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	330.10	351.20†	+19.30	1.75
-do- Accum	737.50	784.60	+43.00	1.75
Growth	211.00	222.70	+ 9.60	2.15
Income	313.90	333.90	+15.80	3.30
Intl Equity	320.70	341.10	+ 4.90	0.06
-do- Accum	359.10	381.90	+ 5.40	0.06
Equity Income #	83.46	88.77†	+ 1.42	4.78
Equity Growth	111.80	118.90	+ 4.70	1.29
New Europe	125.20	133.10	+ 0.50	.
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	806.10	860.86	+ 9.39	0.41
-do- Accum	811.11	866.21	+ 9.45	0.41
Income	529.47	565.28	+21.12	2.83
Wwide Recovery	525.26	561.78	+ 6.18	0.46
Amer Growth Inc	338.23	359.39	+ 4.33	0.01
-do- Accum	338.23	359.39	+ 4.33	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	307.54	328.92	+ 1.10	0.32
Far Estn Gth Inc	313.07	334.84	- 5.88	0.84
-do- Accum	316.99	339.03	- 5.95	0.84
Euro Gwth Inc	228.73	244.47	+ 2.26	0.12
-do- Accum	229.52	245.32	+ 2.27	0.12
UK Growth Inc	134.52	143.88	+ 4.34	2.46
-do- Accum	147.86	158.14	+ 4.77	2.46
High Income	136.06	145.52†	+ 2.94	3.24
Jap Gwth Inc	178.90	191.34	- 5.21	0.22
-do- Accum	178.90	191.34	- 5.21	0.22
PEP Bond	60.92	63.60	+ 0.57	6.85
PEP Growth	170.26	181.96	+ 2.27	0.57
Asian Gh Mkts Inc	139.65	149.36	- 1.66	0.19
-do- Accum	140.10	149.85	- 1.65	0.19
Amer Smlr Co Inc	213.90	228.13	+ 2.52	0.01
-do- Accum	213.90	228.13	+ 2.52	0.01
Global Bond	53.88	56.79	- 0.47	5.26
UK Smaller Cos Inc	110.53	118.22†	- 2.39	1.81
-do- Accum	119.71	128.04	- 0.66	1.81
Lat Am Gwth Inc	46.29	49.42	+ 0.35	0.12
-do- Accum	46.98	50.22	+ 0.36	0.12
Wwide Inc PEP #	49.48	52.28	+ 0.62	4.00
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0161 201 3927				
American	155.11	165.01	+ 2.36	
European	114.53	121.84	+ 0.10	...
Global	76.38	81.25†	+ 0.13	
Pacific	61.74	65.44	- 0.16	.
UK Inc & Gth	89.42	95.13	+ 0.88	1.43
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 438				
Asia Acc	56.21	59.49	+ 0.23	...
Emerg Mkts	53.31	56.56	+ 0.64	0.28
Euro Fund Acc	49.48	52.50	+ 0.04	
Fund of Funds Inc	216.04	229.52†	+ 0.16	0.43
Fund of Funds Acc	220.20	231.79	+ 0.35	0.03
High Income #	57.88	60.93†	+ 0.30	5.74
Performance	53.93	57.22	- 0.18	
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	189.12	196.61	+ 3.81	2.38
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	141.60	150.20	+ 1.80	2.19
Conv & Gilt	123.40	131.30†	+ 0.18	4.82
Euro Spc Sit Acc	113.60	121.80	+ 1.08	.
Extra Income	202.10	215.80†	- 6.20	4.25
-do- Accum	271.00	288.30	+ 8.30	4.25
Far East	422.30	449.70	+ 4.90	0.18
-do- Accum	431.10	458.70	+ 5.10	0.18
Global Income	30.84	32.73	+ 0.24	4.19
High Income	154.49	164.20	+ 4.40	4.11
-do- Accum	201.90	214.80	+ 5.70	4.11
International	241.10	256.50	+ 0.70	0.32
-do- Accum	251.20	267.20	+ 0.70	0.32
Pref & Fxd Int	48.66	51.77	+ 0.13	6.47
Recovery	95.23	101.30†	+ 0.70	2.43
Special Sits	156.10	166.10	+ 1.10	1.66
-do- Accum	175.80	186.50	+ 1.20	1.66
Technology	739.50	786.60	-11.70	
UK Blue Chip	162.60	172.30	+ 3.90	2.76
-do- Accum	174.40	183.30	+ 4.60	2.76
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD UT Dealing 0345 406000 Client Enq 0345 335520				
Managed Tst	50.80	52.64	+ 0.14	1.71
Cash Haven Inc	101.40	101.58†	- 0.05	5.47
Cash Haven Acc	122.47	122.62	[illegible]	5.47
Dist Trust Inc	114.56	118.72	[illegible]	5.11
Dist Trust Acc	132.54	137.76	- 2.11	5.11
Global Growth	119.17	123.72	+ 2.41	1.04
Equity Inc	51.29	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.42
Equity	1027.40	1086.98	+31.95	2.12
European	226.90	232.59†	+ 1.66	0.46
High Income	100.89	107.35†	+ 1.99	4.55
Intl Gth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.78
Intl Sm Co	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.21	1.50
Japanese	[illegible]	[illegible]		
Mthl Income Tst #	29.76	31.40	+ 0.22	7.54
Nth Amer	290.45	302.54	+ 5.05	4.91
Pacific Mkt	117.31	121.56	- 0.42	1.27
Prebend Inc	49.79	51.21	0.11	6.09
Sm Cos	113.46	116.99	- 0.15	1.06
Spec Sits	142.27	151.25†	+ 3.05	2.79
UK Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5066				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	97.30	97.75	[illegible]	3.30
Investment Fund	[illegible]	132.14	[illegible]	0.55
UK Smaller Cos	[illegible]	117.37†	- 1.51	1.87
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Life	402.70	427.20	+12.40	2.47
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT Dealers: 0171 623 1000 Client Services: 0500 124 314				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	945.05	[illegible]	[illegible]	
America (Acc)	997.77	1056.70	[illegible]	
Asian Smlr Cos	72.74	76.75	[illegible]	
Asia	[illegible]	60.00	[illegible]	
European	454.29	[illegible]	- 4.40	
Japan	[illegible]	225.52	- 2.51	
Jap Smlr Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Minor UK Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.48
Smlr UK Cos	[illegible]	475.47	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Equity Inc #	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	52.91	56.30†	- 0.11	
Cash	49.19	50.10†	[illegible]	2.92
Emerging Mkts	52.02	55.50†	- 0.64	.
Europe	[illegible]	76.97†	- 0.02	
Global Fxd Int #	48.16	50.71†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Japan	39.78	41.92†	- 0.77	
North America	72.61	[illegible]	[illegible]	
UK	74.59	77.90†	[illegible]	0.45
UK Equity Inc #	69.15	72.76†	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Fixed Int #	51.78	54.07†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gth Port	57.23	59.30	[illegible]	
Pep Inc Port #	56.56	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.54
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 330 002				
United States	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific Basin	75.44	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
High Inc Dist	192.16	204.55	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ryl Life Intl Cons	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ryl Life Intl Spc	79.67	[illegible]		
UK Emerging Cos	136.60	147.60†	- 2.30	[illegible]
UK Index Trckg	232.30	242.52	+ 6.60	[illegible]
European	209.10	222.90	- 0.10	[illegible]
Managed	206.70	220.00	- 3.00	[illegible]
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01206 764 400				
American Growth	236.00	250.20	- 4.60	1.11
European Growth	175.30	186.10	+ 1.50	1.26
Far East Growth	162.70	173.10†	1.90	0.28
Japan Growth	116.40	122.70	- 3.50	0.26
Special Sits	259.10	276.30	+ 0.50	1.44
UK Growth	120.70	128.40	+ 2.30	2.30
Intl Growth	326.40	347.30	- 2.20	1.56
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	176.10	186.40	- 2.30	0.24
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	497.30	519.30	+ 3.30	0.92
-do- Accum	770.80	815.70	+ 5.10	0.90
Growth Inc	169.70	179.40	- 1.90	0.30
-do- Accum	174.50	184.70	- 1.90	0.30
International Inc	450.10	476.30	3.70	0.40
-do- Accum	622.80	659.00	- 5.10	0.40
Nth Am & Intl Inc	447.80	473.90	+ 3.50	0.30
UK Gen Prog Inc	287.90	304.50	+ 3.80	1.67
-do- Accum	333.40	352.80	+ 4.30	1.67
UK High Inc Inc	172.10	182.10	+ 6.10	4.05
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD 0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	130.05	138.33	- 1.53	0.75
European Gwth	115.59	122.96	+ 1.00	1.00
Global Bd	59.91	63.29	- 0.16	5.00
Japan	51.04	54.29	- 0.65	.
UK Gwth	97.81	104.05	+ 1.48	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Smlr Cos	160.80	171.10	+ 2.70	.
Cash	139.80	139.80†	- 0.10	5.81
China Dragon	82.99	88.29	- 4.34	0.43
Commodity	136.40	145.10	- 2.20	
Emerging Mkts	46.86	49.85†	+ 0.32	0.23
European Gwth	293.80	312.50		
Euro Smlr Cos	77.95	82.93	- 0.63	0.04
Extra Income #	64.35	66.68	+ 1.66	5.24
Far Eastern	101.10	107.50†	- 2.40	
FE Sm Cos	45.80	48.72†	- 0.08	0.50
Financial Secs	390.60	415.50	+10.30	1.31
Gold & Exploration	64.16	68.26	- 7.72	
Growth	526.10	536.70	-17.20	1.70
High Income	51.47	51.47	+ 0.21	6.74
Intl Bond	156.90	164.60	- 0.80	4.86
ITU	264.00	280.90	+ 2.40	0.90
Japan Growth	152.40	161.60	- 3.00	
Japan Smaller	150.10	159.30	- 1.50	
Korea	41.28	43.91	+ 1.43	
Latin America	55.22	58.74†	+ 0.35	0.55
Masterfund	71.23	71.59†	- 0.93	0.77
Premier Eq Gth	192.80	205.10†	+ 5.20	1.26
Premier Eq Inc #	422.10	449.00†	+12.30	4.28
SE Asia	49.30	52.45	- 1.06	
Southern Africa	57.83	61.52	- 1.05	1.58
UK & O'seas	232.00	246.80†	+ 4.10	0.83
UK Eqty Gth	96.07	102.20	+ 2.56	0.92
UK Eqty Inc #	301.00	320.20†	- 5.90	4.06
UK Gth & Inc #	355.70	378.40	+12.40	3.01
UK Sm Cos	60.91	64.80	- 0.18	1.08
US Growth	260.60	277.20	+ 7.30	
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Clnt 0800 526 535 Brkr 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	413.35	436.56	+ 6.60	0.73
-do- Accum	458.80	484.56	+ 7.23	0.73
European Gwth	111.29	117.92†	+ 0.81	0.42
Euro Smllr Cos	126.41	134.31	+ 0.06	0.04
Far Eastern Gth	111.78	119.23	+ 0.07	.
-do- Accum	113.94	121.53	+ 0.06	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	56.04	57.98	- 0.20	7.12
Global Bond #	45.42	46.92†	- 1.82	6.14
-do- Accum #	56.86	58.75†	- 0.53	6.14
Global Emer Mkts	62.86	67.05	+ 0.53	
-do- Accum	62.92	67.11	+ 0.53	
Income #	484.33	516.61	+12.17	4.54
-do- Accum #	1671.63	1783.07	+42.00	4.54
Japan Smlr Cos	334.08	356.25†	- 4.42	.
-do- Accum	334.75	357.06†	- 4.44	
Japan Enterprise	63.94	68.20	- 0.89	.
Pacific Gwth	164.51	175.47	- 2.46	0.40
-do- Accum	171.02	182.42	- 2.44	0.40
Portfolio	107.86	114.91	+ 1.79	1.59
-do- Accum	120.92	128.83	- 2.01	1.59
Seoul	35.26	37.61†	+ 1.63	
-do- Accum	35.26	37.61†	+ 1.62	
Smaller Cos	347.17	370.31†	+ 0.93	0.90
-do- Accum	415.81	443.53†	+ 1.11	0.90
Strategic Inc	112.34	119.68	+ 1.17	2.47
Strategic Acc	114.12	121.70	+ 1.19	2.47
Tokyo	127.78	136.29	- 1.83	
-do- Accum	129.07	137.67	- 1.84	
UK Enterprise	369.39	394.01†	+ 4.22	2.06
-do- Accum	467.74	498.92†	+ 5.10	2.06
UK Equity	348.86	372.11†	+ 7.97	2.28
-do- Accum	720.87	768.92†	+16.47	2.28
US Smlr Cos	275.94	294.23	+ 2.57	
-do- Accum	275.94	294.23	+ 2.57	
Institutional Funds				
European	361.06	374.19	+ 3.61	1.01
-do- Accum	409.77	424.68	+ 4.11	1.01
Euro Smllr Cos	41.24	42.68†	- 0.27	0.92
-do- Accum	44.76	46.55†	- 0.29	0.92
Global Equity Inc	105.86	110.16	+ 0.95	0.78
Japan Smlr Cos	31.22	32.52†	- 0.19	0.12
-do- Accum	31.58	32.99†	- 0.18	0.12
Mngd Balanced	247.62	257.99	+ 2.79	3.56
-do- Accum	296.14	308.48	- 3.34	3.56
Overseas Equity	249.66	260.06†	- 0.83	0.81
-do- Accum	264.06	275.05†	+ 0.87	0.81
[illegible] Smllr Cos	144.93	150.96	- 0.50	0.84
-do- Accum	153.90	160.30	- 0.54	0.84
Pacific	289.21	301.26	- 3.86	1.45
-do- Accum	323.99	337.49	- 4.37	1.45
Recovery	2535.36	2642.04	+ 7.10	2.98
-do- Accum	2802.33	2929.93	+ 7.90	2.98
UK Index	216.44	225.45†	+ 6.29	3.07
-do- Accum	284.82	296.09†	+ 8.28	3.07
UK Small Cos	148.77	154.96	- 0.51	2.48
-do- Accum	165.58	173.52	+ 0.57	2.48
US Smlr Cos	74.10	77.09	+ 0.61	0.74
-do- Accum	76.24	79.41	+ 0.62	0.74
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	71.35	75.45	+ 2.60	2.42
Equity Trust	90.77	95.98	+ 2.71	2.46
Equity Strategy	99.80	105.54	+ 0.86	1.15
European Opps	126.70	133.98	- 0.53	0.54
UK Smaller Cos	82.89	87.66	0.08	1.09
Maximum Inc	100.13	102.74	+ 0.10	6.11
Japanese	71.56	75.67	- 1.95	
Asia Pacific	122.32	129.35	- 0.95	0.49
American	168.90	178.61	+ 5.68	
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 0800 454 422				
Cash	34.43	34.43	+ 0.04	5.95
UK Eq Gwth Inc	72.01	76.75	+ 1.69	3.00
-do- Accum	97.72	104.16	+ 2.57	3.00
Intl Income	340.11	361.96	+ 5.97	1.42
-do- Accum	604.34	643.16	+10.59	1.42
European	125.46	133.05	+ 0.49	1.35
Japan	59.06	62.57	- 1.10	0.19
American	122.39	129.41	+ 3.44	1.17
Far East Tact	90.65	96.69†	- 0.03	1.38
Ethical Inc	42.78	45.76†	+ 0.32	1.56
UK Blue Chip Inc	47.13	50.36	+ 1.67	3.38
UK Equity Inc	48.37	51.59	- 1.89	4.17
UK Capital Inc	55.13	58.73	+ 1.04	1.66
Wwide Tact	97.15	103.34	+ 1.53	1.01
Europe Tactical	88.79	94.39†	+ 1.12	0.98
Technology	175.51	186.29	+ 2.72	0.71
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	579.40	617.40	+20.30	2.56
American	412.20	436.30	+10.70	0.14
Pacific	411.70	440.30	- 3.80	0.09
European	788.20	845.00	+ 5.80	0.61
Worldwide	112.70	120.50	+ 0.20	0.20
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	384.40	409.00	+13.50	1.96
-do- Accum	515.20	548.10	+18.10	1.96
UK Sm Co Eq Inc	290.80	309.40	- 1.40	0.92
-do- Accum	361.90	385.00	- 1.80	0.92
Select Opprtnty Inc	95.46	102.10	+ 0.50	1.74
Income Plus Inc	98.13	104.40	+ 3.80	2.79
European Inc	538.90	572.60	+ 0.70	0.75
-do- Accum	621.10	659.90	+ 0.70	0.75
Far Eastern Inc	185.50	197.40	- 2.50	0.93
-do- Accum	215.80	229.60	- 2.90	0.93
Japanese Inc	56.64	60.36	- 1.43	
Nth American Inc	410.00	436.40	+13.60	0.27
-do- Accum	454.20	482.30	+15.10	0.27
Intl Growth Inc	258.50	275.10	- 0.40	0.38
Wwide Venture Inc	110.40	117.50	+ 0.40	0.43
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT 0131 [illegible] 3724				
Equity Inc	511.90	540.80	+13.30	2.27
-do- Accum	792.80	837.00	+20.60	2.27
UK High Inc	270.70	284.00	+ 8.40	2.27
-do- Accum	392.50	414.70	-12.10	2.27
Europe Inc	578.80	611.50	- 5.40	0.26
Nth Amer Inc	379.50	399.90	- 5.75	
Global Inc	290.30	310.90	- 1.06	[illegible]
Global Acc	318.40	336.40	- 1.90	0.10
UK Spec Sits Inc	149.70	158.10	+ 3.15	1.75
South East Asia	221.30	223.20	+ 0.50	0.18
Cash Trust Inc	100.40	100.40	+ 0.70	5.72
UK Smlr Cos Inc	125.10	132.10	- 5.27	1.29
-do- Accum	132.40	139.50	- 0.35	1.63
Intl Extra Inc	86.29	90.60	- 2.95	4.75
International Strat	29.96	34.70	- 0.31	
SHARP (ALBERT E) Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	197.80	207.90†	- 1.80	0.27
Nth American	163.70	172.20†	- 4.60	
Intl Bond & Conv	130.00	136.80	+ 0.70	[illegible]
Pooled Pens Inc	292.20	297.60	[illegible]	1.89
Smaller Cos	333.60	355.90	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK General #	193.70	203.70	+ 7.20	[illegible]
Far Eastern	90.56	95.33	0.54	0.19
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 0171 626 0226				
Continental	106.20	112.70	+ 0.40	[illegible]
Global Gwth	85.77	95.75	+ 1.46	[illegible]
Inv Tst Port	62.61	67.60	+ 0.13	[illegible]
Managed	1455.00	1534.40	30.72	[illegible]
Pref Inc #	107.66	112.60†	- 1.60	[illegible]
Smaller Cos	283.40	301.40†	- 4.70	[illegible]
Ireland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	105.20		- 3.60	[illegible]
Sterling Reserve ‡	100.17		[illegible]	[illegible]
Corporate Inc ‡	99.55		- 0.99	[illegible]
Eur Port ‡	120.03		[illegible]	
Amer ‡	90.48		+ 0.64	
Amer Gth Fund ‡	157.73		[illegible]	
European ‡	190.84		[illegible]	
Global Bond ‡	88.97		[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] ‡	56.29		[illegible]	
UK Growth ‡	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	100.89		- 0.63	[illegible]
Investment Trust ‡	172.50		- 0.51	[illegible]
The Football Fd ‡	89.06		- 0.35	
Reserve Rail Up ‡	98.41			
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 0171 637 5377				
American	499.50	528.50	+11.40	
Capital	162.00	172.50	- 2.40	1.05
Cash	101.32	101.32	[illegible]	[illegible]
European	193.70	204.20	6.50	0.21
Far Eastern	173.70	182.80	- 0.25	
Growth	188.40	199.40	[illegible]	[illegible]
Income #	154.10	162.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
Magnum	168.90	178.70†	- 2.95	[illegible]
Smith Secs	632.60	645.10	[illegible]	[illegible]
Thoroughbred	199.10	210.70	- 2.90	[illegible]
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01202 435000				
[illegible]	58.00	62.03	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ethical	86.08	92.26	- 0.72	1.09
European Growth	97.22	105.20†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Income	67.47	71.94	[illegible]	[illegible]
Intl Growth	125.10	132.50	- 1.45	[illegible]
Managed	167.00	175.46†	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Growth	86.41	92.41	[illegible]	[illegible]
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS 0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	52.89	57.15	[illegible]	[illegible]
Global Advtg Acc	57.81	59.10	- 5.39	[illegible]
Income Advtg Inc	41.14	41.37†	- 1.79	[illegible]
Income Advtg Acc	43.25	43.56	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Equity Gth Acc	116.60	123.60	+ 2.54	[illegible]
Premier Inc Inc	51.53	52.67†	- 0.22	[illegible]
Premier Inc Acc	52.62	53.75	- 0.22	[illegible]
Managed Acc	72.36	76.71	+ 1.95	[illegible]
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	47.92	50.85	- 1.71	4.15
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	65.01	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.15
UK Smlr Cos Acc	48.66	51.63	- 0.12	[illegible]
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gth Acc	94.21	100.10	+ 2.31	1.65
UK Equity Gen Inc	65.92	[illegible]	+ 2.24	1.65
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.12	25.02	- 2.12	6.26
[illegible] Co Acc	407.10	441.97	- 2.40	[illegible]
Nth American Acc	70.64	74.42	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific Basin	46.57	49.49	- 0.32	[illegible]
European Acc	69.04	73.36	- 3.10	1.09
Japan Acc	25.92	27.54	- 0.70	0.47
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 0171 344 7000				
Global # (NZ$)	5.230	5.563		1.67
US Eqts (US$)	4.244	4.434		3.03
Far East Eqts (yen)	283.70	301.30		
FT Europe	179.40	190.50		1.02
FT N Amer (US$)	2.371	2.560		
FT Japan (yen)	204.60	216.10		
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	3.159	3.356		0.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 226 3271				
American	565.40	597.30	+15.40	
British #	1433.20	1516.30	-46.10	2.94
Emerging Mkts	201.40	214.10	+ 3.60	0.42
Euro Gwth Inc	113.60	120.40	- 0.20	
Euro Small Co	65.51	69.77	0.34	0.59
Japan	119.00	126.20	- 1.20	
New Pacific	446.30	475.30	4.60	1.16
-do- Accum	485.60	517.10	- 5.00	1.16
Inv Inst Acc	327.20	346.80	+ 2.30	1.12
Mngd Equity	222.00	234.90†	- 0.70	1.90
Mngd Cash	95.40	95.40†	- 1.01	5.89
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 389				
Equity	1281.00	1370.00	+52.00	1.60
North America	226.80	241.70	+ 6.60	
Far East	164.50	175.90	- 3.60	
Wwide Bond	54.95	58.31	- 0.43	5.64
European	176.10	188.30	- 0.50	0.17
Equity Income #	129.80	136.80†	+ 5.40	4.16
Portfolio	129.80	138.80	+ 2.40	
UK Leading Cos	97.91	104.40†	+ 4.30	1.97
High Inc Bond	51.00	51.08	- 0.10	6.23
Broker Trusts				
Intnl Equity	83.22	89.01†	- 0.15	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD 0800 525 725				
Antares UT	24.52	26.09	- 0.49	0.60
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	101.71	108.21	+ 0.39	6.76
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	109.38	116.37	+ 0.42	6.76
European	61.94	65.90	- 0.53	0.60
High Income	40.06	42.62	- 1.58	3.47
Japan	34.32	36.52	- 0.36	0.01
Managed Assets	162.75	173.54†	+ 2.14	2.44
North American	55.17	58.70	+ 1.05	0.04
Smlr Co's Inc	37.33	39.72	- 0.20	1.95
Smlr Co's Acc	41.36	44.01	- 0.22	1.95
UK Growth Inc	75.34	80.15†	+ 1.29	2.04
UK Growth Acc	87.08	92.64	+ 3.22	2.04
UK Income	52.08	55.71†	+ 1.92	2.91
Worldwide Gth	47.13	50.41	+ 0.18	0.13
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	61.80	65.74	- 0.03	
Cap Protector Inc	57.37	61.02	+ 0.95	2.47
UK Income Inc	70.98	75.51	+ 0.86	2.84
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	37.40	39.58†	- 0.05	6.69
Mngd High Yld Inc	103.29	109.99	+ 2.57	3.94
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	101.40	107.87	+ 2.97	3.04
UK Smaller Cos	42.10	44.79	- 0.93	2.10
Pacific Gth Port	54.22	57.68	- 0.67	0.60
TSB UNIT TRUSTS 01264 346 794				
American	363.32	384.46	-11.53	
-do- Accum	400.17	423.46	-12.14	
Brit Growth	144.48	152.88	+ 6.45	1.37
-do- Accum	182.03	192.63	+ 8.13	1.37
European	152.31	161.18	+ 0.87	
-do- Accum	162.69	172.16	+ 0.93	
Extra Income #	246.25	260.58	-11.00	4.20
-do- Accum #	460.11	486.99	-20.55	4.20
Smaller Cos	91.63	96.96	- 0.39	1.00
-do- Accum	105.31	111.44	- 0.10	1.00
General	419.16	443.56	+16.97	1.69
-do- Accum	903.48	956.06	+35.37	1.69
Premier Income	53.58	56.91	+ 0.25	6.20
-do- Accum	139.00	144.19	+ 0.68	6.20
Income #	443.09	468.88†	+19.71	3.28
-do- Accum #	1058.78	1120.41†	+44.70	3.28
Pacific	395.39	418.41†	- 3.67	
-do- Accum	415.46	439.64†	- 3.86	
International	718.35	760.15	+ 2.47	0.07
-do- Accum	949.24	1004.49	+11.20	0.07
Nat Resources	159.49	168.77	- 3.04	0.27
Special Opps	150.10	158.83	- 5.09	0.95
-do- Accum	198.61	210.17	+ 6.73	0.95
Environmental Inv	96.65	102.28	+ 3.33	0.70
Selector	85.05	90.00	+ 2.61	1.23
-do- Accum	99.91	105.73	+ 3.08	1.23
High Income #	79.14	83.75†	- 2.09	4.17
-do- Accum #	112.21	118.74†	+ 4.32	4.17
Intl Income	62.34	65.97	- 0.15	4.42
-do- Accum	84.71	89.64	+ 0.17	4.42
Selector Income	74.09	78.40	+ 2.11	4.02
-do- Accum	95.83	101.41	+ 2.73	4.02
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED 0181 667 1018				
British	482.18	507.56	+16.07	2.30
European	93.30	97.69	- 0.07	1.16
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	265.86	281.33†	- 0.01	2.52
Glob Balncd Inc	218.78	231.51	+ 2.16	3.79
Value Tst Inc	164.53	174.10†	- 0.38	2.49
THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 600 6033				
Capital	102.60	109.20†	+ 2.50	0.48
International	80.49	85.40†	- 0.53	
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	38.93	40.49	- 0.59	4.50
European Growth	411.02	420.38	+ 3.79	0.60
Exempt	772.01	805.90†	+17.88	2.90
Global Em Mkts	99.60	104.29	- 1.27	0.40
Japan Tst	78.91	82.62	+ 0.71	
Little Dragons	128.46	134.51	2.12	
Nth Amer Gwth	368.97	386.35	+11.50	0.40
Oriental Income #	50.16	52.52	- 0.31	2.60
Preference	137.41	143.89	+ 0.66	8.30
Tiger	314.62	329.44	+ 0.37	
UK Blue Chip	97.79	102.39	+ 5.15	1.50
UK Growth	777.64	814.29	+27.68	0.50
UK High Yield #	134.51	140.84†	+ 4.13	4.99
UK Mid-Cap	352.69	369.30	+ 1.15	2.60
UK Smlr Cos	140.78	147.41	- 1.65	0.70
UK Smlr Cos Div #	89.40	93.61†	- 3.19	5.90
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD 01277 690 336				
UK Equity Income #	134.40	142.95	+ 4.19	4.27
UK Equity Growth	121.34	129.08	+ 3.00	2.47
European	91.52	97.36	+ 0.56	1.13
Nth American	103.63	110.24	+ 2.47	0.10
Far Eastern	81.35	86.54†	- 1.06	0.66
Money	73.85	73.85	+ 0.06	4.76
Fixed Interest #	85.30	90.74	- 0.35	7.56
Index Linked Gilt	75.81	80.65	- 0.80	1.19
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD 0345 959695				
Income Trust	108.04	108.04	+ 0.07	6.57
Pens Growth	117.74	117.74†	+ 3.17	
Pens Inc Protct	106.77	106.77†	+ 0.07	
UK Index Tracking	152.84	152.84	+ 4.12	2.45
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0161 831 7456				
Australasian Gold	20.41	21.48	- 2.01	...
Pacific Basin	40.44	42.57	- 2.80	
Global Fund (US$)	0.9463	0.9857†	+ 0.01	
Penny Share	44.77	47.13†	- 0.10	
Japan Smlr Cos	38.46	40.48	0.01	..
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 623 2444				
Short Dtd Gilt	127.70	129.50		.
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.8024	0.8109	+ 0.00	
Gilt Income	51.76	52.57†	+ 0.01	6.20
Gilt Growth	81.99	83.27	+ 0.36	
Sterling Bond	50.70	51.05†	+ 0.10	6.70
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 298 4000				
Intl Mod	53.95	57.89	+ 0.70	1.75
UK Stockmarket	118.40	125.80	+ 2.80	2.25
Corporate Bd Inc	50.23	50.23	+ 0.06	6.24
Do Accum	53.13	53.24	+ 0.08	6.24

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. @ Exit Charge

Equities end week on flat note

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
469	407½	Allied Domecq	435½	+ 1½	6.8	13.1
626	472½	Bulmer (HP)	477½	- 8½	3.5	14.2
75½	49½	Burn Stewart	50	- 5	8.5	12.5
1040	865	Glenmorangie A†	972½		1.7	24.0
620½	425½	Grand Met	614	- 1	3.4	19.5
620½	424	Guinness	613	- 5	3.3	17.5
380	321½	Highland Dist	331		3.2	15.5
336	235	Matthew Clark	244	- 1½	12.3	11.6
109½	52½	Merrydown W	60	+ ½	9.6	8.1
1978½	1462½	SA Brewerics	1837½	- 3½	2.8	..

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1178½	918½	ABN-AMRO	1106½	- 6½	2.8	
971	710	Abbey Nat	988	- 9½	3.7	15.7
655	532½	Alliance & Leic	618½	- 19	3.3	15.2
491½	388½	Allied Irish	431½		3.7	13.9
451½	363½	Ans New Z	438	+ 1½	4.3	
4159½	2875	Bank America	4084½	- 62½		
432	291½	Bank Scotland	412	- 2½	2.5	12.5
1303½	978½	Barclays	1237½	- 1½	3.2	12.5
703½	517½	Bk of Ireland	684½	- ½	3.0	
7850½	6006½	Citicorp	7687½	- 87½	..	
1759½	1268½	Commerzbk	1637½	- 9½	2.8	
852½	559½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	784½	- 12½	0.6	
3669½	2709½	Deutsche Bk	3512½	- 50	1.7	
1131½	799½	Espirito Santo	1096½	- 3½	3.2	
947½	584½	Fuji Bank Y	842	- 25½	0.5	
1973	1272½	HSBC	1953	+ 14½	2.6	16.9
1877½	1241	HSBC HK	1865½	+ 7	2.7	16.2
783	714	Halifax	775½	+ 8	2.4	23.2
610	483½	Irish Perm	565		2.9	
705	424	Lloyds TSB	681	+ 5½	2.4	22.0
888½	669½	Nat Aust Bk	860½	- 6	4.6	12.1
896½	663½	Nat West	887½	- 1½	4.1	13.3
663½	508	Ryl Bk Scotl	604½	- 3	4.0	13.0
1046	681	Stand Chart	992	+ 6½	1.8	17.8
£164½	£164½	Wells Fargo	£164½		1.9	
374½	315½	Westpac	351	- 4½	4.2	.

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
227½	115½	Sir Hundred	116	- 1½	5.6	2.5
832½	735	Smiths Ind	738½	- 12	2.8	18.0
737½	638½	Spirax-Sarco	646½	- 11	2.9	17.0
303½	246½	Sterling Ind	261½	- 3½	4.9	12.4
594½	450	TI	473½	- 6	3.8	15.8
116½	101½	Tinsley (E)	111½	..	7.1	
120½	94½	Transtect	94½	- ½	3.1	13.4
306½	154½	Triplex Lloyd	155		5.6	8.8
220½	156½	Unicorn Ind	217½		3.6	
77½	48½	Utd Indst	58½	..	5.1	16.9
273½	192½	Vickers	192½	- 5½	4.7	11.5
10½	8½	Villers Grp	9½			
712½	565	Vitec	566	- 5½	2.7	10.3
852	760	Vosper Thornyt	760		4.3	12.3
350	215	Wagon Ind	217½		11.4	6.7
263½	203½	Weir	242½	- 2½	4.1	13.9
258½	212½	Wellington Hdg	212½		4.8	12.5
33	23	Wellman	28½	+ 1½	8.5	8.8
61½	45½	Wescol	58½	..	2.7	16.8
683	525	Whatman	662½		2.5	20.0
65½	30½	Widney	31½		14.3	.

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
140	104½	Adwest	104½	- ½	9.3	14.7
197	180	AirFlow Stream†	180		5.6	11.4
757	602	Avon Rubber†	630	- 2½	3.9	13.1
285	227½	Bostrom	275		3.2	11.4
107½	96	Britax	104½		4.2	14.4
762	657½	First Tech	750		1.6	22.2
1064½	907	GKN	920	- 39	3.6	
3653½	3265½	General Mtr	3375	- 37½	3.5	
583½	416½	Hardys	461½		4.1	10.9
2051	1540½	Honda Motor	1740½	- 30	0.4	
413½	322½	Laird	328½	+ 1	4.9	9.4
226	189	LucasVarity	192	- 10½	3.5	19.3
165½	131	Mayflower	144½	+ ½	1.9	27.2
172½	127½	Syltone	147		5.6	
179	123	T & N†	144	- 1	5.2	
85½	32½	Tead	40½			
339½	238½	Trinity Hldgs†	247½	- 1	4.5	12.0

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* Source: Micropal.

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CRICKET

Essex fail to cope with Shine

By Ivo Tennant

CHELMSFORD (third day of four): Somerset (24pts) beat Essex (6) by ten wickets

ESSEX are supposed to be contesting the leadership of the county championship table. Somerset, when without their two leading bowlers, are supposedly one of the more feckless of the first-class counties. Not so yesterday, for they won by the quite unexpected margin of ten wickets and with a day to spare.

Kevin Shine, who has revitalised his career at his third and most welcoming club, took five for 72 in the Essex second innings and eight wickets in the match.

It is hard to glean just why Essex, who were bowled out for 129 yesterday, batted so indifferently in this match. They did not have to contend with Caddick or Mushtaq Ahmed, one of whom was with England and the other injured. Shine, Rose and Kerr do not make for the most formidable attack in the country.

Yet still they bowled Essex out. The captain went in the opening over to the first ball he received and, with the exception of Stuart Law, there was a submissiveness about the remainder of the batting.

Prichard was neatly taken by Turner, who scooped the ball up in front of first slip. This was the first wicket to be taken by Shine, whose tendency to be erratic works, perversely, to his advantage. The batsman never knows what is coming next.

There was a fair bit down the leg side, interspersed with the odd ball delivered at a fair pace on or outside off stump that swings away just sufficiently to catch the edge. Shine, having been awarded his county cap last month, after being released earlier in his career by both Middlesex and Hampshire, feels he has a future.

His other wickets were those of Gooch, leg-before shuffling in front of his stumps, Danny Law, caught at second slip, Rollins, playing on, and Robinson, who came in down the order because of a bruised thumb, taken at the wicket down the leg side.

Shine's match figures were eight for 145 and throughout, it should be noted, the conditions afforded him minimal assistance.

On one occasion, Stuart Law, whose 55 runs came off 56 balls, effortlessly flicked for six a ball that Shine speared down the leg side. Yet he, too, contrived to bring about his own dismissal.

Having batted with an ease that suggested a large score was in the offing, he attempted to late-cut Kerr and edged to first slip. It is facile to say he needs to bat against a more challenging attack than this, but, at times, that was apparent.

Kerr also removed Irani, who was caught, Australian style, by Shine at long leg. Rose, who had made useful runs earlier in the day, had Grayson well taken by Holloway at cover, the catch judged to perfection over his shoulder. Rose also finished off the tail, giving him figures of three for 22.

Somerset were left to make a mere 21 to win. Their victory was brought about not least by their diligent and at times positive batting in the morning. Turner finished unbeaten with 80, an innings which included six fours and a six over long-on off Such. They are unlikely to finish in the higher echelons of the championship table, but this was a triumph to relish.

The loss of the third day's play between Durham and Hampshire, after a storm, raised the prospect that for the first time an entire match at Chester-le-Street will be wiped out. The Axa Life League match is also in doubt.

PETER WHYTE

Tufnell launches an animated but unsuccessful appeal for leg-before against Martin

Middlesex on brink of defeat

By Richard Hobson

UXBRIDGE (third day of four): Middlesex, with four second-innings wickets in hand, need 101 runs to avoid an innings defeat by Lancashire

BARRING significant improvement, Middlesex will succumb to their first county championship defeat under the captaincy of Mark Ramprakash today. At no stage have they played like aspirants to the title and they have already relinquished the leadership that they held before this game — to Glamorgan — with Lancashire ready to capitalise on a sizeable advantage.

After extending their first innings to 417 for nine before declaring 299 runs ahead, Lancashire reduced Middlesex to 198 for six and enjoyed a third day of high achievement marred only by the broken thumb sustained by Titchard during fielding practice. Gary Yates found enough assistance for his off spin to prove a considerable menace from the Town End, while Peter Martin completed his first ten-wicket haul in a match.

At least Middlesex saw off the new ball the second time around. Kallis was quickly on to the back foot to pull anything short, yet both he and Weekes showed early vulnerability against the spinners and, when Weekes edged to Fairbrother at slip, it was merely the culmination of a difficult period.

Ramprakash followed his first innings' duck with just two before falling leg-before to Yates. Kallis, who struck two sixes in his 62, and Gatting departed in successive overs to catches at silly mid-off with the score on 112.

Few batsmen in these circumstances begrudge dismissal as much as Brown. He can expect to graft the 10,000th run of his gritty career this month and, when he edged Martin to second slip, the whooping among the fielders was understandable. How Brown would have appreciated the innings by Fairbrother that underpinned Lancashire's total. He was three short of a deserved first hundred of the season when he gave a return catch to Hewitt.

Azhar raises gloom

TRENT BRIDGE (final day of three): Nottinghamshire drew with Pakistan A

ARRIVING during their off-season, Pakistan A exhibited signs of a lack of match practice and the sort of inexperience that one may associate with a side whose average age is 19 (Rupert Cox writes).

On Wednesday, they elected to field — inexplicably — dawdled through their overs and subsequently their batting crumbled against some tidy Nottinghamshire bowling. However, they did narrowly save the follow-on and, with it, the match.

As the tourists struggled to find their feet, the scoring rate declined to two an over and the few paying spectators were indebted to Azhar Mahmood for raising the tempo with an attractive unbeaten 56 from 112 balls.

A seventh-wicket stand of 66 between Azhar and Javed Qadir seemed to be intigating a recovery before Matthew Dowman inspired a collapse with career-best figures of three for ten, leaving the last wicket pair to nervously reach 150.

Sheriyar revels in Sussex's misery

By James Allen

ARUNDEL (third day of four): Worcestershire (22pts) beat Sussex (6) by an innings and 35 runs

WORCESTERSHIRE won much as they pleased yesterday evening, completing victory with a day to spare. It was a commanding display, built around the tireless bowling of Alamgir Sheriyar, who added four second-innings wickets to the six he had claimed in the first.

Sussex humiliation is almost a habit. Their first innings score of 71 was a small improvement on two paltry totals in the thrashing by Glamorgan a week ago. Having resumed at 23 for three, they lost their last seven wickets in 24 overs. Bereft of confidence, every ball was an ordeal. It swung and seamed, occasionally lavishly, and Sheriyar, bowling left arm over at a brisk pace, asked the batsmen questions they were unable to answer.

Sheriyar, 23, began his career at Grace Road and joined Worcestershire last season. He enjoyed his brightest moment in taking six Sussex wickets for 99 at New Road, although the opposition was very different to that which he faced here. Among his victims then were Wells, Salisbury and Danny Law, all now departed. Sheriyar's first-innings figures of six for 19 are his best in first-class cricket and there should be further improvement to come. This was his first ten-wicket haul in a match.

Sussex's plight is extreme. Even when they have a fully fit squad — Lenham, among the batsmen, is injured — it is hard to discern a truly competitive line-up. Athey is their unlikely champion, which is a tribute to his enduring ability, but also a sad reflection of the troubles of others.

Peirce stuck it out for longest in making 29, by some way the highest score of the first innings, but fell cheaply second time around. At least Sussex reached three figures and showed a bit more backbone, though these things are relative. Drakes suffered the indignity of a second nought in the day, playing round a leg-stump yorker. It was an accurate commentary on the match.

Cosker keeps Glamorgan in command

By Pat Gibson

SWANSEA (third day of four): Gloucestershire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 132 runs behind Glamorgan

GLAMORGAN went to the top of the county championship last night and they could take some shifting. Even without Robert Croft, they looked a powerful side all round as they forced Gloucestershire to follow on, 186 runs behind.

They should now go on to record their third successive victory on a pitch helping both seam and spin bowling against opponents whose own title ambitions have been ruthlessly exposed.

Gloucestershire's bowlers were powerless to prevent Glamorgan from running up 400 for five declared and then their batsmen, none of whom has made a championship century this season, subsided to 214 all out. To add to their embarrassment, Jon Lewis had to abort his run-up four times in one over before he eventually got it right to have Hugh Morris leg-before for 173, a monumental effort.

Glamorgan's bowlers proved an altogether different proposition to the Gloucestershire attack, with much-needed balance supplied by Dean Cosker, the England Under-19 left-arm spinner, who played no small part in flushing out the isolated pockets of resistance.

It was Cosker who got rid of Wright after he had batted through 24 overs for 32, Cosker who had Russell caught at slip after he had helped Young put on 60 for the sixth wicket, the biggest partnership of the innings, and Cosker who made the second-innings breakthrough by removing Wright again.

Kent contrive to give some entertainment

By Barney Spender

MAIDSTONE (third day of four): Kent, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 321 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

THE Maidstone Festival week is turning into something of a nightmare. The weather has been the key, the ideal of sunshine and Pimm's on the grassy slopes replaced by drizzly skies and a mug of soup in the pavilion. Unfortunately, the cricket that has been played has barely justified the entrance money.

A stodgy first day was followed by just 16 largely meaningless overs on Thursday and yesterday the doughty spectators, who waited until 4pm for some live entertainment, were made to put up with the phoney war that precedes a contrived run-chase.

With 152 overs already lost, it is difficult to blame the players, for whom the contrivance must be equally galling, but it was a tedious reminder of the softness of some championship cricket. To be fair, dignity remained just about intact. If the bowling was friendly, it never reached charitable status.

After Mal Loye and Russell Warren had posted Northamptonshire's highest opening stand of the season (84), Kent began their second innings with a lead of 222 and a brief from the dressing-room of an agreement that their opponents should be left to chase 320 today.

Ignoring Dickie Bird's desire to get everyone off for bad light, the batsmen played their part and the bowlers did likewise. The crowd mustered some enthusiasm when Fleming thrashed Snape for a six, but it was all pretty bland and, with Kent declaring two runs beyond the agreed target, all pretty contrived.

Continuity is the key for Leicestershire

By Michael Austin

LEICESTER (third day of four): Leicestershire, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 95 runs ahead of Yorkshire

A MICAWBERESQUE approach was the nearest that Leicestershire have come to match-winning tactics in this rain-affected contest. James Whitaker, the captain, simply opted to bat on, establish a slender lead and wait for something to turn up today.

When Leicestershire declare, or are bowled out, they will hope that the psychological advantage of Yorkshire needing to bat to save the game will bring tangible benefits.

Whitaker played a leading role, as he invariably does against his native county. Having taken two championship centuries and a double-hundred off their attack in the past four summers, he produced a cavalier innings of 87.

He eventually drove loosely at Peter Hartley and was caught at the wicket. Darren Maddy was even closer to a third championship hundred of the season before he fell, six short, to a catch at at slip.

Their dismissals, plus that of Johnson, who was yorked first ball, in the space of six deliveries destroyed Leicestershire's hopes of hurrying towards a substantial total.

Whitaker and Maddy added 150 for the third wicket before Nixon and Smith, the latter returning after three weeks' absence with a fractured finger, inspired Leicestershire through the evening.

Yorkshire's plus points included a first championship wicket on his debut for Ryan Sidebottom, 19, a fast-medium left-arm bowler and the son of Arnie, now coaching at the county's cricket academy.

Surrey show no stomach for the fight

By Michael Henderson

EDGBASTON (third day of four): Warwickshire, with six second-innings wickets in hand, require nine runs to beat Surrey

SURREY were humiliated yesterday. This "team of all the talents" was bowled out for 144 by Warwickshire, who need only nine more runs this morning to complete a handsome victory — despite losing four quick wickets last night. Ignore the loss of Surrey's three Test players. As it has been so often this season, their cricket was appallingly soft.

Allan Donald, charging in from the City End, showed them what a true professional looks like as he took five wickets in 28 balls to disembowl a batting line-up in which only Ratcliffe showed any stomach for the fight.

Surrey dropped six catches in the Warwickshire innings and gave every impression of being a rabble. Hollioake, the captain, missed two of them and the second, when Smith skied Saqlain to midwicket, could only be put down to sheer laziness.

In addition, there was an extraordinary amount of noise coming from Lewis at gully and, later, when he bowled. Lewis indulged in the sort of antics that would be considered excessive in a world-beater, which he is not. Having had Penney leg-before for 99 with a scuttler, he did a war dance past the batsman. Later still, when Surrey batted again, he booted the gate on his way off, having survived all of three balls from Donald.

Penney and Brown served Warwickshire well with the bat, adding 131 for the fifth wicket. Brown fell to the deserving Bicknell for 66. Smith swung lustily for an unbeaten 69.

Singh's delay rebounds on Cambridge

By Jack Bailey

LORD'S (final day of three): Oxford University drew with Cambridge University

THE question buzzing round Lord's, while Oxford University made a spirited attempt to score 326 runs to win before settling for a draw, was why the Cambridge captain, Anurag Singh, had delayed his declaration. The obvious time was during the luncheon interval, when Oxford would have needed to score 301 at a rate of roughly five an over.

Did Singh delay his closure in order to give Ratledge the opportunity of making a century? It was the only logical explanation. Ratledge duly reached his landmark, yet 20 minutes were lost and all the wrong signals were sent to Oxford.

Any possible chance Oxford had of reaching the eventual target, in two hours and the final 20 overs, was slender indeed once Wagh, still chasing, had been bowled, cutting at a yorker. He had made a brisk 47, but, with the score at 189 for four, it then became a question of whether the last six Oxford wickets could hold out for the remaining 15 overs.

Wickets continued to fall steadily until the resolute Scrini was joined by Buchanan with eight men out. These two saw out the last seven overs, though not without moments of uncertainty, and Cambridge were left to ponder how an extra 20 minutes might have helped their cause.

With both electronic scoreboards on the blink, everyone was in a state of nervous uncertainty throughout the morning. The Cross Arrows board was employed and will doubtless be kept in readiness for future events, but it scarcely fits the bill.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Essex v Somerset

CHELMSFORD (third day of four): Somerset (24pts) beat Essex (6) by ten wickets

ESSEX: First innings 280 (D D J Robinson 78, P J Prichard 51, J I D Kerr 4 for 83)

Second innings

G A Gooch lbw b Shine	23
*P J Prichard c Turner b Shine	0
A P Grayson c Holloway b Rose	6
S G Law c Bowler b Kerr	55
R C Irani c Shine b Kerr	6
D R Law c Parsons b Shine	4
†R J Rollins b Shine	0
D D J Robinson c Turner b Shine	4
A P Cowan c Bowler b Rose	8
M C Ilott not out	1
P M Such lbw b Rose	1
Extras (lb 1, w 6, nb 14)	21
Total	129

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-14, 3-61, 4-76, 5-104, 6-104, 7-108, 8-117, 9-127.

BOWLING: Shine 19-5-72-5; Rose 10.3-3-22-3; Kerr 8-3-34-2.

SOMERSET: First innings

*P D Bowler lbw b Ilott	0
P C L Holloway c Gooch b Grayson	90
S C Ecclestone c Gooch b Ilott	0
M N Lathwell c Cowan b D R Law	87
K A Parsons c Rollins b Cowan	31
†R J Turner not out	80
M Burns c Rollins b Grayson	4
G D Rose c Grayson b Cowan	38
J I D Kerr b D R Law	36
S Herzberg c Grayson b D R Law	4
K J Shine lbw b Ilott	12
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 4, nb 6)	19
Total	389

Score at 120 overs: 375-9

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-0, 3-147, 4-207, 5-219, 6-233, 7-308, 8-348, 9-380

BOWLING: Ilott 22.4-7-70-3; Cowan 22-3-99-2; Such 27-9-55-0; Grayson 19-7-42-2; Irani 18-5-41-0; D R Law 19-1-72-3

Second innings

M Burns not out	15
P C L Holloway not out	5
Extras (w 2)	2
Total (no wkt)	22

BOWLING: Ilott 2.4-0-13-0; Cowan 2-0-9-0.

Umpires: R Julian and M J Kitchen

Glamorgan v Gloucs

SWANSEA (third day of four): Gloucestershire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, need 132 runs to avoid an innings defeat by Glamorgan

GLAMORGAN: First innings

S P James c Lynch b Lewis	8
H Morris lbw b Lewis	173
A Dale c Russell b Lewis	0
*M P Maynard c and b Young	98
P A Cottey not out	76
G P Butcher c Ball b Alleyne	0
†A D Shaw not out	16
Extras (b 4, lb 3, w 12, nb 10)	29
Total (5 wkts dec, 102.3 overs)	400

Waqar Younis, S D Thomas, S L Watkin and D A Cosker did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-40, 3-263, 4-347, 5-350.

BOWLING: Lewis 26-3-87-3; Young 18-4-59-1; Sheeraz 7-0-40-0; Ball 19-1-76-0; Alleyne 17-1-81-1; Davis 15.3-0-70-0

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First innings

A J Wright c Butcher b Cosker	32
N J Trainor c James b Waqar	6
T H C Hancock c Shaw b Watkin	21
M A Lynch c Maynard b Watkin	38
S Young lbw b Waqar	38
*M W Alleyne c Cottey b Cosker	0
†R C Russell c Cottey b Cosker	22
M C J Ball c Thomas b Watkin	12
R P Davis lbw b Waqar	2
J J Lewis c Shaw b Thomas	20
K P Sheeraz not out	12
Extras (lb 11)	11
Total (58.4 overs)	214

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-46, 3-93, 4-101, 5-102, 6-162, 7-170, 8-182, 9-182.

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 15-2-55-3; Watkin 17-5-61-3; Cosker 18-1-59-3; Thomas 7.4-1-26-1; Cottey 1-0-2-0

Second innings

A J Wright c Cottey b Cosker	28
N J Trainor not out	20
R P Davis not out	2
Extras (lb 2, nb 2)	4
Total (1 wkt)	54

FALL OF WICKET: 1-43

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 4-0-15-0; Watkin 5-0-20-0; Thomas 4-2-8-0; Cosker 3-1-7-1; Butcher 1-0-2-0.

Bonus points: Glamorgan 8 Gloucs 3.

Umpires: A Clarkson and A G T Whitehead

Kent v Northamptonshire

MAIDSTONE (third day of four): Kent, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 321 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

KENT: First innings 306 (N J Llong 57, P A Strang 55; Mohammad Akram 4 for 56)

Second innings

D P Fulton not out	35
M J Walker c Loye b Snape	23
M V Fleming b Bailey	8
T R Ward not out	31
Extras (nb 2)	2
Total (2 wkts dec)	99

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-58.

BOWLING: Mohammad Akram 3-1-3-0; Boswell 2-1-3-0; Bailey 10-0-48-1; Snape 9-0-45-1.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First innings

M B Loye not out	48
R J Warren not out	31
Extras (lb 1, nb 4)	5
Total (no wkt dec, 33 overs)	84

*R J Bailey, K M Curran, T C Walton, D J G Sales, †D Ripley, J N Snape, J P Taylor, Mohammad Akram and S A J Boswell did not bat.

BOWLING: Igglesden 10-5-18-0; Thompson 10-2-28-0; Strang 3-1-11-0; Phillips 2-1-5-0; Llong 5-1-19-0; Wells 3-2-2-0.

Bonus points: Kent 3 Northamptonshire 4.

Umpires: H D Bird and V A Holder

Leicestershire v Yorkshire

LEICESTER (third day of four): Leicestershire, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 95 runs ahead of Yorkshire

YORKSHIRE: First innings 268 (D Byas 88; A D Mullally 5 for 103)

LEICESTERSHIRE: First innings

V J Wells b Hartley	4
D L Maddy c Byas b Stemp	94
I J Sutcliffe b Sidebottom	33
*J J Whitaker c Blakey b Hartley	87
N C Johnson b Hartley	0
B F Smith c Blakey b White	41
†P A Nixon not out	52
D J Millns not out	25
Extras (b 1, lb 14, w 4, nb 8)	27
Total (6 wkts, 108 overs)	363

J Ormond, A R K Pierson and A D Mullally to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-86, 3-236, 4-236, 5-236, 6-310

BOWLING: Silverwood 23-4-76-0; Hartley 22-7-63-3; White 15-0-70-1; Stemp 33-11-90-1; Sidebottom 12-4-39-1; McGrath 3-0-10-0.

Bonus points: Leicestershire 8 Yorkshire 4

Umpires: N T Plews and P Willey

Middlesex v Lancashire

UXBRIDGE (third day of four): Middlesex, with four second-innings wickets in hand, need 101 runs to avoid an innings defeat by Lancashire

MIDDLESEX: First innings 118 (P J Martin 8 for 32).

Second innings

P N Weekes c Fairbrother b Yates	31
J H Kallis c Flintoff b Yates	62
*M R Ramprakash lbw b Yates	2
M W Gatting c sub b Martin	7
J C Pooley lbw b Keedy	24
†K R Brown c Lloyd b Martin	31
O A Shah not out	20
R L Johnson not out	0
Extras (b 4, lb 1, w 2, nb 14)	21
Total (6 wkts)	198

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-79, 2-85, 3-112, 4-112, 5-186, 6-195.

BOWLING: Martin 16-6-31-2; Shadford 11-0-47-0; Austin 1-0-10-0; Yates 22-5-65-3; Keedy 15-2-40-1

LANCASHIRE: First innings

S P Titchard c Pooley b Tufnell	79
N T Wood c Gatting b Tufnell	67
*N H Fairbrother c and b Hewitt	97
G D Lloyd b Tufnell	8
A Flintoff lbw b Fraser	10
I D Austin c Johnson b Tufnell	69
†W K Hegg c Gatting b Hewitt	5
G Yates not out	31
P J Martin c Gatting b Tufnell	2
D J Shadford b Kallis	9
G Keedy not out	6
Extras (b 5, lb 7, w 12, nb 10)	34
Total (9 wkts dec)	417

Score at 120 overs: 312-4.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-126, 2-193, 3-215, 4-244, 5-334, 6-348, 7-369, 8-373, 9-405

BOWLING: Hewitt 35-8-79-2; Fraser 30-5-105-1; Tufnell 40-10-90-5; Johnson 24-6-84-0; Kallis 17-6-51-1; Weekes 8-2-16-0

Bonus points: Middlesex 1 Lancashire 7

Sussex v Worcestershire

ARUNDEL (third day of four): Worcestershire (22pts) beat Sussex (6pts) by an innings and 35 runs

WORCESTERSHIRE: First innings

T S Curtis lbw b Drakes	3
W P C Weston lbw b Drakes	8
G A Hick c Martin-Jenkins b Drakes	4
K R Spiring c Khan b Kirtley	36
*T M Moody c Moores b Kirtley	43
G R Haynes c Moores b Robinson	2
D A Leatherdale c Drakes b K Newell	34
†S J Rhodes not out	58
S R Lampitt b K Newell	5
P J Newport c Moores b Martin-Jenkins	45
A Sheriyar c M Newell b Martin-Jenkins	0
Extras (lb 11, w 4, nb 2)	17
Total (103 overs)	255

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-19, 3-34, 4-102, 5-105, 6-111, 7-154, 8-168, 9-255

BOWLING: Drakes 20-6-33-3; Kirtley 24-9-59-2; Robinson 22-5-48-1; M-Jenkins 14-3-51-2; Khan 11-2-33-0; K Newell 12-4-20-2

SUSSEX: First innings

C W J Athey b Newport	1
M T E Peirce b Leatherdale	29
N R Taylor lbw b Sheriyar	7
A A Khan c Rhodes b Sheriyar	3
M A Robinson c Hick b Sheriyar	0
K Newell c Rhodes b Sheriyar	3
M Newell lbw b Sheriyar	10
R S C Martin-Jenkins b Sheriyar	0
*†P Moores not out	3
V C Drakes c Rhodes b Leatherdale	0
R J Kirtley c sub b Leatherdale	0
Extras (b 2, lb 1, nb 12)	15
Total (40.2 overs)	71

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-15, 3-23, 4-27, 5-37, 6-53, 7-53, 8-65, 9-69

BOWLING: Newport 14-7-22-1; Sheriyar 16-9-19-6; Leatherdale 6.2-4-12-3; Lampitt 4-0-15-0

Second innings

*†P Moores c Lampitt b Sheriyar	15
M T E Peirce c and b Sheriyar	2
N R Taylor b Leatherdale	4
C W J Athey c Curtis b Sheriyar	32
K Newell b Lampitt	16
M Newell lbw b Lampitt	24
R S C Martin-Jenkins c Moody b Lampitt	26
V C Drakes b Lampitt	0
A A Khan lbw b Lampitt	10
M A Robinson b Sheriyar	3
R J Kirtley not out	0
Extras (b 1, lb 8, nb 8)	17
Total	149

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-23, 3-25, 4-61, 5-87, 6-124, 7-124, 8-146, 9-149

BOWLING: Newport 8-2-21-0; Sheriyar 14.3-3-44-4; Leatherdale 12-4-32-1; Lampitt 15-5-39-5; Moody 3-2-4-0

Warwickshire v Surrey

EDGBASTON (third day of four): Warwickshire, with six second-innings wickets in hand, need nine runs to beat Surrey

SURREY: First innings 193

Second innings

J D Ratcliffe c Hemp b Donald	59
G J Kennis lbw b Brown	9
I J Ward b Donald	21
*A J Hollioake c Frost b Donald	5
A D Brown lbw b Donald	5
C C Lewis c Knight b Donald	0
†J A Knott c Ostler b Welch	1
M P Bicknell c Ostler b Brown	4
I D K Salisbury b Donald	24
Saqlain Mushtaq c and b Smith	10
A J Tudor not out	3
Extras (b 2, lb 1)	3
Total	144

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-87, 3-93, 4-99, 5-99, 6-102, 7-103, 8-107, 9-122

BOWLING: Donald 17.4-4-55-6; Welch 14-4-22-1; Brown 15-3-39-2; Smith 8-2-25-1

WARWICKSHIRE: First innings

*N V Knight lbw b Bicknell	2
A J Moles lbw b Bicknell	9
D L Hemp c Knott b Bicknell	14
D P Ostler c Ward b Tudor	10
T L Penney lbw b Lewis	99
D R Brown b Bicknell	66
G Welch c Knott b Tudor	6
N M K Smith not out	69
†T Frost c Kennis b Lewis	0
A F Giles c Hollioake b Lewis	0
A A Donald st Knott b Saqlain	2
Extras (b 5, lb 12, w 2, nb 10)	29
Total (87.4 overs)	306

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-26, 3-37, 4-55, 5-186, 6-203, 7-287, 8-291, 9-303

BOWLING: Bicknell 30-3-96-4; Lewis 15-3-40-3; Tudor 11-1-49-2; Hollioake 14-1-60-0; Ratcliffe 4-1-10-0; Saqlain 13.4-3-34-1

Second innings

A J Moles c Knott b Bicknell	0
N M K Smith c Hollioake b Lewis	0
D L Hemp b Bicknell	8
D P Ostler not out	5
T L Penney lbw b Lewis	5
D R Brown not out	0
Extras (lb 1, nb 4)	5
Total (4 wkts)	23

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-0, 3-8, 4-21

BOWLING: Bicknell 5-1-20-2; Lewis 4-3-2-2

Bonus points: Warwickshire 7 Surrey 4

NO PLAY: Chester-le-Street (third day of four): Durham v Hampshire

Tour match

Notts v Pakistan A

TRENT BRIDGE (final day of three): Nottinghamshire drew with Pakistan A

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First innings 298-9dec

Second innings

P R Pollard c Javaid b Shoaib Akhtar	15
*R T Robinson b Shoaib Akhtar	4
G F Archer c Mohammad b Azhar	1
M P Dowman c Ali b Azhar	3
U Afzaal c Javaid b Shoaib Malik	31
C M Tolley c Javaid b Azhar	19
†L N P Walker not out	12
R T Bates b Abdul	1
P J Franks c Javaid b Shoaib Malik	5
M N Bowen not out	0
Extras (lb 3, w 1, nb 12)	16
Total (8 wkts dec)	107

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-29, 3-31, 4-49, 5-87, 6-97, 7-98, 8-107

BOWLING: Shoaib Akhtar 8-2-22-2; Abdul Razzak 7-2-28-1; Azhar Mahmood 14-4-33-3; Shoaib Malik 13-3-21-2.

PAKISTAN A: First innings

Ali Naqvi b Dowman	29
Salim Elahi c Afzaal b Tolley	23
*Mohammad Wasim lbw b Tolley	12
Mujahid Jamshed lbw b Bates	1
Hassan Raza b Tolley	0
Rana Qayyum b Franks	2
Azhar Mahmood not out	56
†Javaid Qadir c Robinson b Dowman	16
Abdul Razzak lbw b Dowman	0
Shoaib Malik run out	1
Shoaib Akhtar run out	4
Extras (b 2, lb 2, nb 2)	6
Total	150

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45, 2-59, 3-68, 4-68, 5-68, 6-74, 7-140, 8-140, 9-141

BOWLING: Franks 15-3-32-1; Bowen 16-3-49-0; Tolley 16-6-32-3; Dowman 10-4-10-3; Bates 11-3-23-1

University match

Cambridge v Oxford

LORD'S (final day of three): Cambridge University drew with Oxford University

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First innings 358 for 8 dec.

Second innings

J Ratledge not out	100
E T Smith b Patel	1
*A Singh c Scrini b Battarbee	43
R O Jones c Fulton b Battarbee	26
W J House c Scrini b Patel	11
Q J Hughes not out	47
Extras (lb 11)	11
Total (4 wkts dec)	239

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-74, 3-110, 4-125

BOWLING: Averis 17.3-4-73-0; Patel 14-4-63-2; Battarbee 12-0-56-2; Wagh 6-0-36-0

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First innings 272.

Second innings

C G R Lightfoot c Churton b How	61
B W Byrne b P S Jones	21
*M A Wagh b Janisch	47
P G Morgan b Janisch	22
J A G Fulton b P S Jones	15
C Patel b Janisch	8
J M M Averis c House b Janisch	23
R D Hudson lbw b P S Jones	0
L G Buchanan not out	6
†A P Scrini not out	8
Extras (b 8, lb 8, w 12, nb 10)	38
Total (8 wkts)	249

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-81, 2-121, 3-172, 4-189, 5-197, 6-205, 7-229, 8-229

BOWLING: P S Jones 21-7-81-3; How 10-2-42-1; Janisch 15-1-71-4; Freeth 8-1-16-0; R O Jones 5-0-23-0

Lane appointed to Lewis's bout

MILLS LANE will be the referee when Lennox Lewis defends his World Boxing Council heavyweight championship against Henry Akinwande at Caesars Palace, Lake Tahoe, Nevada on July 14 (Srikumar Sen writes). Lane was the referee in the recent bout between Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson.

Lewis's camp had no objection to the appointment. Emanuel Steward, Lewis's trainer, said: "He is a good referee. He is stern and will not allow holding by Akinwande. We know that is what Akinwande is going to do. I think he handled the bout between Holyfield and Tyson very well." Lane, from Las Vegas, warned Tyson for biting a piece of Holyfield's ear in the third round and would have disqualified him for that infringement had the doctor not allowed the bout to go on. When Tyson repeated the foul in the same round, Lane disqualified him.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Rugby Union: Kevin Morgan, 20, the Pontypridd full back, is the only new cap in the Wales side to meet the United States in the first international in Wilmington, Delaware, today.

WALES: K Morgan (Pontypridd); W Proctor (Llanelli), L Davies (Cardiff), G Thomas (Bridgend), N Walker (Cardiff); A Thomas (Swansea), P John (Pontypridd); C Loader (Swansea), G Jenkins (Swansea), L Mustoe (Cardiff), A Gibbs (Llanelli), G Llewellyn (Harlequins), M Voyle (Llanelli), G Jones (Cardiff, capt), S Williams (Neath). Replacements: D James (Bridgend), L Jarvis (Cardiff), A Moore (Richmond), M Thomas (Bath), C Anthony (Swansea), R McBryde (Llanelli)

Cricket: Ian Payne, 39, the former Surrey and Gloucestershire all-rounder, has been appointed as captain of Shropshire in succession to Mark Davies.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today

CRICKET

Third Cornhill Test match

11.0, third day of five, 90 overs minimum

OLD TRAFFORD: England v Australia

Britannic Assurance county championship

11.0, final day of four, 96 overs minimum

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Hampshire

SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Gloucestershire

MAIDSTONE: Kent v Northamptonshire

LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Yorkshire

UXBRIDGE: Middlesex v Lancashire

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Surrey

Tour match

11.0, first day of three

DERBY: Derbyshire v Pakistan A

RUGBY UNION

International matches

South Africa v British Isles (at Ellis Park, Johannesburg, 4.15)

United States v Wales (at Wilmington, North Carolina, midnight)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Super League

Paris v Castleford (7.0)

First division

Huddersfield v Hull (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Scottish women's national championships (in Ayr).

BOXING: World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight championship: S Collins (Ire, holder) v A Cabrera (US); WBO inter-continental light-heavyweight championship (vacant): M Prince (Tottenham) v J Wilson (Edinburgh) (at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow)

GOLF: Murphy's Irish Open (at Druids Glen, County Wicklow); Lawrence Batley Seniors (at Huddersfield).

ROWING: Henley Royal Regatta.

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Eastbourne v King's Lynn (7.30). Premier League: Berwick v Reading (6.30). Four-team championship: Qualifying round: Stoke v Long Eaton v Sheffield v Hull (7.30). Amateur League: Berwick v St Austell (6.30); Swindon and Reading v Exeter and Newport (7.30)

TENNIS: All England Championships (at Wimbledon).

WATER POLO: British championship: Finals (in Walsall)

Tomorrow

CRICKET

Third Cornhill Test match

11.0, fourth day of five, 90 overs minimum

OLD TRAFFORD: England v Australia

Axa Life League

2.0, 40 overs

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Hampshire

CHELMSFORD: Essex v Somerset

SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Gloucestershire

MAIDSTONE: Kent v Northamptonshire

LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Yorkshire

UXBRIDGE: Middlesex v Lancashire

ARUNDEL: Sussex v Worcestershire

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Surrey

Tour match

11.0, second day of three

DERBY: Derbyshire v Pakistan A

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of two): Reading CC: Berkshire v Dorset. Aylesbury: Buckinghamshire v Cumberland. South Wilts CC: Wiltshire v Devon.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Super League

Leeds v Salford (3.0)

Oldham v Sheffield (at Hyde Utd FC, 3.0)

St Helens v Bradford (6.35)

Warrington v Halifax (3.0)

First division

Featherstone v Workington (6.0)

Hull KR v Swinton (3.0)

Wakefield v Widnes (3.30)

Second division

Barrow v York (3.0)

Hunslet v Batley (3.30)

Leigh v Doncaster (3.0)

Rochdale v Carlisle (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

CROQUET: British Open championships (at Hurlingham).

CYCLING: Women's national 50-miles Championship (Alcester, 7am)

GOLF: Murphy's Irish Open (at Druids Glen, County Wicklow)

MOTORCYCLING: British superbike championship (at Thruxton).

ROWING: Henley Royal Regatta.

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Bradford v Poole (6.0); Swindon v Eastbourne (7.0). Premier League: Glasgow v Reading (6.30). Newcastle v Hull (6.30). Newport v Edinburgh (2.30). Amateur League: Buxton v Peterborough (3.0); Lathallan v St Austell (2.30); Mildenhall v Exeter and Newport (3.30).

TENNIS: All England Championships (at Wimbledon)

هكذا من الأصل

RUGBY UNION: SOUTH AFRICA SEEK CONSOLATION

Clean sweep offers extra motivation for ambitious Lions

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN JOHANNESBURG

THE last hurrah for the 1997 British Isles, as for any touring team reaching the end of the road, is a difficult one. Amid the hubbub of present-buying and social engagements, there remains an international match with South Africa to be won at Ellis Park here this evening.

The Lions, having taken a series-winning 2-0 lead, could be excused if their minds were not wholly on the job, but that has not been their way. They know that they have played exceptional rugby on this tour, they know too that they have not been able to reproduce it in the two internationals, save in the final quarter in Cape Town, and they would like to rectify that situation and leave South Africa on the highest possible note.

Already assured of their place in the history books of rugby, they would dearly love to succeed where the New Zealanders last year and, indeed, their own illustrious predecessors of 1974, failed and win the final international of the series to complete a clean sweep. History is against them: no team visiting South Africa has done that this century.

Yet seldom has such confusion reigned in South African ranks. Their run of injuries throughout the series was sustained this week when André Joubert, their most experienced player, withdrew with a groin injury. His place at full back will go to Russell Bennett, a talented attacking player, as he demonstrated as a replacement on the wing in Cape Town, but apart from Joost van der Westhuizen, at scrum half, the back division can barely muster double figures in caps between them.

Boeta Wessels, the uncapped Free State stand-off half, has also withdrawn from the list of replacements, so Henry Honiball, dropped after the second international, returns to the squad. "We can't pass the buck around, responsibility rests with the coaching staff and with the team to produce results," Carel du Plessis, the coach, said. "A lot of hard work has been done and we must keep in mind the demanding programme we face."

The Lions themselves are not short of casualties, but they came together earlier this week and decided that, even with their objective achieved, the high standard that they have set themselves must be sustained.

It will involve an exceptional mental effort against a team desperate to recover pride and a degree of confidence to take with them into the tri-nations series with New Zealand and Australia, which begins for them against the All Blacks in Pretoria in a fortnight.

To that extent, victory today should mean more to South Africa. They have not been beaten in six internationals at Ellis Park and it was on this ground, too, that the 1974 Lions met their only setback, a 13-13 draw that denied them a 4-0 whitewash in the series. There are, however, too many queries over the 1997 Springboks to assume that they will do the same.

Nor has Martin Johnson — who has withdrawn from the England squad for the international with Australia a week today to rest a groin injury — found difficulty in motivating his players on this tour. Johnson, as captain, has occupied a more peripheral role than some of his predecessors, a situation to which he takes no exception. Such is the nature of support staff in the professional era that Johnson's primary role has been to lead by example and, in concert with the half backs and key individuals such as Lawrence Dallaglio, tweak the tactical strings every now and again.

"The players are very responsible, they are professionals who know that if they look after the team, they look after their own livelihood," Johnson said. "After we had won the series in Durban, we agreed there was still work to be done. We had to come to terms with what we had achieved and decide our attitude for the final week, which was to try and end on a high.

"But that comes from the players. We knew that if we weren't a squad totally together, we wouldn't have a chance here and the pride over what we have done is no greater for me as captain than for any player.

"In South Africa, they all remember 1974 and Willie-John McBride. Hopefully after 1997, they will remember all the guys who played well, the games we played and the tries we scored."

☐ Doddie Weir, who returned home after suffering serious ligament damage during the match with Mpumalanga on June 4, returned to South Africa yesterday to watch the final international. Weir, the Newcastle and Scotland lock, hopes to start training again in two months.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT ELLIS PARK

SOUTH AFRICA		BRITISH ISLES
R G Bennett (Border)	15	N R Jenkins (Pontypridd/Wales)
A H Snyman (Northern Transvaal)	14	J Bentley (Newcastle/England)
P Montgomery (Western Province)	13	I S Gibbs (Swansea/Wales)
D van Schalkwyk (Northern Transvaal)	12	J C Guscott (Bath/England)
P W G Rossouw (Western Province)	11	T Underwood (Newcastle/England)
J H de Beer (Free State)	10	M J Catt (Bath/England)
J H van der Westhuizen (N Transvaal)	9	M J S Dawson (Northampton/England)
J P du Randt (Free State)	1	T J Smith (Watsonians/Scotland)
J Dalton (Gauteng)	2	M P Regan (Bristol/England)
D F Theron (Griqualand West)	3	P S Wallace (Saracens/Ireland)
J C Erasmus (Free State)	6	L B N Dallaglio (Wasps/England)
J J Strydom (Gauteng)	4	M O Johnson (Leicester/England)*
K Otto (Northern Transvaal)	5	J W Davidson (London Irish/Ireland)
A G Venter (Free State)	7	N A Back (Leicester/England)
G H Teichmann (Natal)*	8	T A K Rodber (North'ton/Army/England)

Referee: W Erickson (Australia) Sky Sports 1: from 3.30pm * captain

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J Swart (Western Province), 17 H W Honiball (Natal), 18 W Swanepoel (Free State), 19 F J van Heerden (Western Province), 20 A E Drotske (Free State), 21 A C Garvey (Natal)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 T R G Stimpson (Newcastle/England), 17 A G Bateman (Richmond/Wales), 18 A Healey (Leicester/England), 19 B H Williams (Richmond/Wales), 20 D Young (Cardiff/Wales), 21 R A Hill (Saracens/England).

Cotton plants seeds of unity

Rob Hughes hears a call for Twickenham to spread the wealth of British Isles talent

NEIL MUNNS

Cotton's strength of character is reflected in the Lions' play

Fran Cotton, whose indomitable personality has been transmitted into the marrow of the British Isles team, has not exhausted his own fires on the eight-week tour of South Africa.

Today, the Lions could become the first visiting side in history to whitewash the Springboks; next Friday, he will be back in London in time for the annual meeting of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) and intends to drive forward, with the same force of personality, the same messages of British and Irish integration that are surpassing sporting history on playing fields abroad.

Cotton, a big man in every sense, brooks no intimidation, no equivocation. He has overseen this tour like a father, avuncular or stern, depending on how he sees the need. He pulled the Lions together, selecting the coaches, Ian McGeechan and Jim Telfer, and then choosing each of the 35 players — 40, counting the five replacements called up during the tour — and bonding them closer than brothers for the mission of standing up to the ruthlessness of southern-hemisphere rugby, suppressing it and beating it remorselessly. If, as was seen in Durban last Saturday, that had to be ground out with sheer guts and determination, defending the line until the kicker, Neil Jenkins, the Pontypridd boot, could kick South Africa down, then Cotton will not apologise.

He has led this tour with jaw-setting principles, a tour that is the most professional and least social that any team from these isles has undertaken. From it, his message to the lords of Twickenham is that English rugby owes something to the Celtic brotherhood of Ireland, Scotland and Wales, something that must be paid for in hard cash out of television negotiations and will be repaid by raising the standards of northern-hemisphere rugby, in the awesome way that the Lions are now demonstrating is possible.

Cotton has not forgotten the embarrassing way in which his appointment to manage this tour was conducted. "I was very excited when the initial approach came. Having played in the only Lions side to win a tour in South Africa, in 1974, the next best honour would be to manage a team to do the same. Having been asked to put my name forward, the RFU committee did not even have the courtesy to phone me and tell me that Billy Beaumont, who earlier had said he had too many commitments to lead the tour, had changed his mind."

In time, the three candidates — Beaumont, Cotton and the Scot, Duncan Paterson — were summoned to the East India Club in London and interviewed for the post. Even there, Cotton's uncompromising nature won through. Twice, in rancorous arguments with the rugby authorities over an autobiography and then the rights to his shirt company business, which had transformed him from a Wigan miner's son to a millionaire, Cotton looked the committee gentlemen in the eye and demanded: "If you are looking for the traditional ambassador role, giving speeches, then I'm not your man. I would want to be accountable for all aspects."

Credit the committee for responding positively. Credit, as Cotton does, Ray Williams, the chairman of the four home unions' tour committee, who has supported him at every turn and provided the resources to drive through the ultimate professional approach, an approach that many South Africans readily acknowledge could show them the way to regroup and to change their outmoded style.

François Pienaar, the captain of the 1995 World Cup-winners, the player-coach of Saracens but discarded by South Africa after requesting better terms — more money — for the players, said last week: "Churchill said it is only a fool that lives in the past. It's a bigger fool who doesn't go back into the past and learn from it."

Cotton emphasised that the relationship between the coaches, especially McGeechan, and players is the core to any touring side. As the initial selector of that coach and of each individual in the squad, it is Cotton who laid down the policy and the culture of the tour.

He expected each man to live and breathe winning rugby. "We had a belief that if you get a group of people with one common purpose, it's amazing what can happen," Cotton said. "I asked the players for five things: to play with more desire than South Africa, to show the right attitude in training and towards one another, to believe in themselves, to be smarter than opponents who might in some instances be bigger and, above all, to have discipline."

Cotton, dressing daily in the same style of tracksuit as his team, takes pride that not one player, not those on the receiving end of what he has twice labelled unacceptable brutality or those who made only the midweek team, has sulked or shied away from that collective responsibility.

Cotton's job in South Africa is all but done — at 50, he sees it as a one-off project — but the Lions, thanks to this successful tour, will prevail as a concept and seeing the disparate, squabbling home nations drawn together, brother to brother, Francis Edward Cotton has two big days ahead. First, on July 11, he intends to throw his considerable weight behind the RFU executive chairman, Cliff Brittle, insisting that England, rather than acting as the superior union, should assist in unification for the benefit of all.

And then? A weekend, yet to be designated in August or September, a "bash" for his players, whose homecoming will not be a united celebration because the English among them are limping on towards a further leg in Australia. Cotton is coming home; the Union should take cover.

Back holds the key to treble chance

Rob Andrew highlights the players who can inspire the Lions to an historic achievement

HAVING won the series 2-0, it is inevitable that there has been a sense of anticlimax this week. Somehow, here in Johannesburg, the British Isles have got to find that extra edge that took them to victory in Cape Town and Durban when they were playing for their lives. It will not be easy.

In the first international, they were playing for respect; in the second, they were playing to win the series; today, the prospect of whitewashing South Africa 3-0 must be their inspiration — that, and wanting to play the way they played in the provincial games. There is a desire to show what they can do in an international.

The changes to the side will help because there are a few fresh faces who will be fired up. With Mike Catt at No 10, Tony Underwood on the left wing and Neil Back on the flank, they have players who could spark the Lions into producing the rugby we have seen in the provincial games.

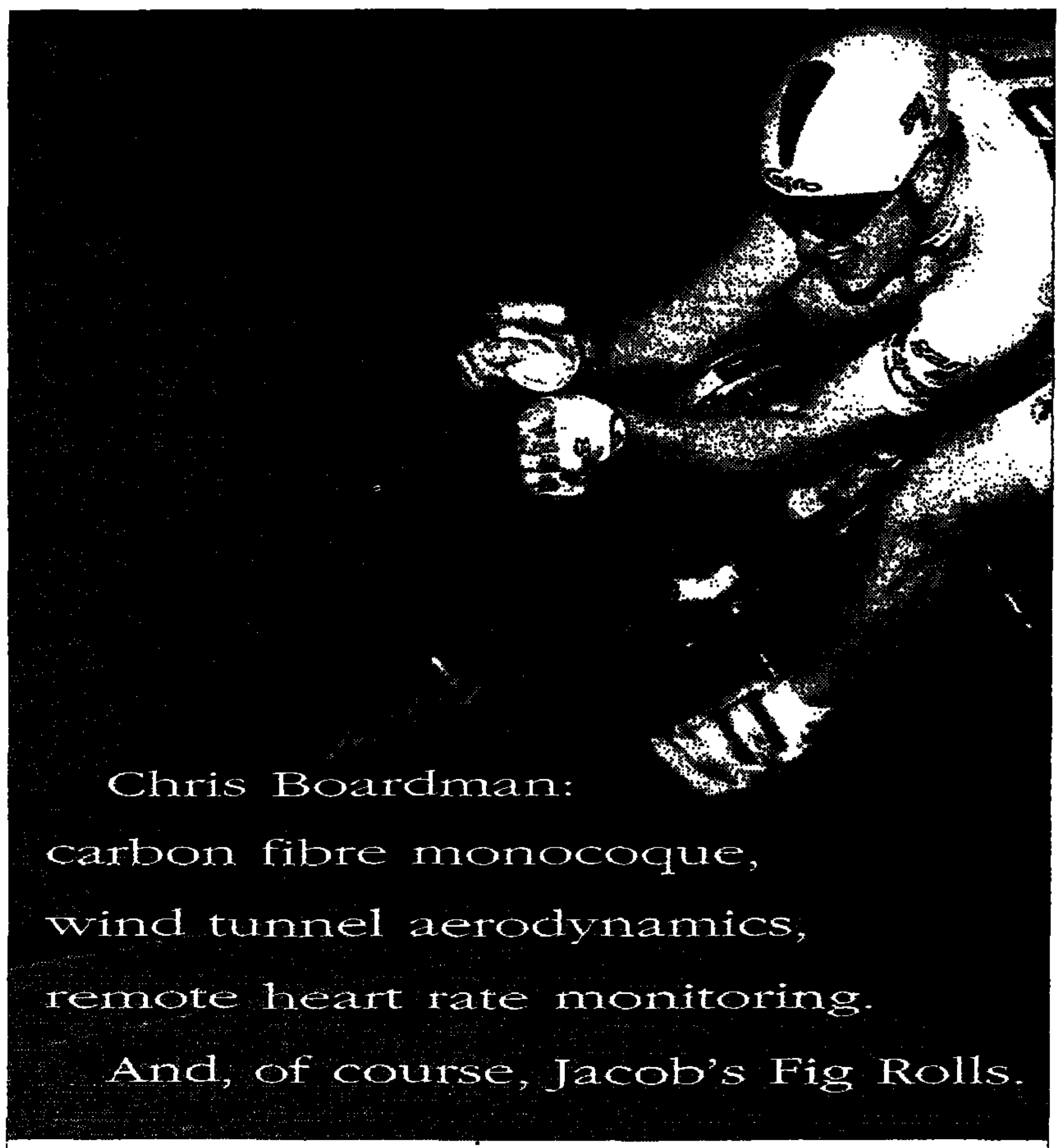
Back gives them security because he gets to the breakdown so quickly. Catt is on top of his game and probably playing as well as he ever has at stand-off half and, with the series won, it is tailor-made for him to stamp his mark on the match. With Underwood, you have extra pace out wide that may give Guscott and Gibbs that extra confidence to push the ball that bit farther.

No one has ever doubted Back's ability; the question mark has been whether he can perform at international level, given his size. Two things have helped him out here — one is the way that Ian McGeechan, the coach, has wanted the team to play, which has been right up his street; the other is the conditions out here.

The new laws played under these conditions have returned the game towards Back's type of player and he can now make a much bigger contribution. His hands are fantastic, he is very good on the floor at getting the ball and he puts the tackles in. His support work is the best of any back-row forward and he deserves his chance.

Catt is the type of player who makes things happen — a bit like Gregor Townsend. Sometimes they come off, sometimes they don't. When you have a player like that on top of his game, the chances are that more things will come off than not. He could well be the catalyst to bring out more of the football in this Lions team.

The South Aricans are in worse shape than when they started the series. They have made four changes to the pack that played well in the second international, their two best forwards, Kruger and Andrews, are missing, they have changed the front row, they have a stand-off who is making his debut and now André Joubert has dropped out. The Lions are on a roll and there is more of an edge to their team than the Springboks.



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CYCLING: BRITON DETERMINED TO MAKE HIS MARK IN TOUR DE FRANCE

Boardman banks on flying start

BY JEREMY WHITTLE AND PETER BRYAN

CHRIS BOARDMAN starts his fourth Tour de France in Normandy this afternoon knowing that anything less than a top-ten finish in the three-week event is likely to end his hopes of winning professional cycling's most prestigious race.

The Merseysider may be the outstanding favourite to win the opening prologue time-trial through the streets of Rouen today and become the first to wear the leader's yellow jersey in the 84th Tour, but his future as a credible team leader hangs on his overall performance during the next 23 days.

"The pressure is on me for the prologue because I'm expected to win," he said yesterday. "Normally, I have got a terrible memory — I even forget my kids' birthdays — but I can remember the course for this prologue with my eyes closed."

Boardman, 28, made a remarkable debut in the Tour in 1994, claiming the yellow jersey with a record-breaking prologue ride in Lille. That win was seen as the platform for an eventual challenge at victory, but while there have been occasional glimpses of that potential and his performance in time-trials has remained consistently high, he has failed to become recognised as the type of rider seen by the French as a "man of the Tour".

"I have put myself under pressure to achieve a good overall result this year. Frankly, it will be easier for me to win the prologue than to finish in the top ten in Paris," he said. "People keep biting off more than I can chew," he added wryly of the pressures on him to succeed, "but I don't fear the Tour de France anymore, not in the same way that I did last year. It's certainly daunting, but I am strangely looking forward to it".

The 7.3-kilometre prologue today is an appetiser for an event that starts in earnest tomorrow, contested by 198 riders representing 22 teams.

Boardman: pressure

There is a record £1.5 million of prize-money this year, of which the overall winner (the rider with the lowest aggregate time) will pocket a minimum of £300,000, about £14,000 for every day in the saddle.

The winner is unlikely to bank much of his prize: most of it will be shared among his eight team riders — the domestiques, who will have attacked, defended, paced, fetched and carried on his behalf. The winner's reward will be in the form of higher contract money next season, better start money and additional revenue from a host of endorsements.

The 3,900-kilometre route that swings around France in an anti-clockwise direction (with one day in Switzerland) should favour the climbing specialists, dubbed "mountain goats" for their expertise in the difficult terrain that they will encounter in the Pyrenees and the Alps.

Bjarne Riis, the Dane who ended Miguel Induráin's astonishing sequence of five successive victories last year, is no mean climber even though his build is chunky, unlike most of his rivals, whose racing weight hovers around 10½ st.

He starts favourite, but it is almost as though he cannot shake off the shadow of the Spaniard who has so dominated the Tour. Abraham Olano, the 1995 world road race champion from Spain, bears a remarkable resemblance to his compatriot and could prove to be the new Induráin.

However, the Tour will not be merely a two-man race, certainly until the mountain stages are completed. Alex Zülle, runner-up to Induráin in 1995, has all the power and team support to win, but first he must conquer a propensity for falling off.

Should Riis falter, he has a likely successor in his team-mate, Jan Ullrich, runner-up last year on his debut and only 1min 14sec behind. Ullrich has pledged to defend Riis and knows that, at 23, his ambitions can remain in check.

On the decisive mountain stages, Richard Virenque, King of the Mountains last year for the third time, will figure large, as will Ivan Gotti, winner of the Tour of Italy, Peter Luttenberger, a professional for only two years, and Marco Pantani, sidelined last year after a serious accident.

STAGE DETAILS: Today: Time-trial prologue (7.3km), Rouen. Tomorrow: first stage, Rouen to Forges-les-Eaux (192km).

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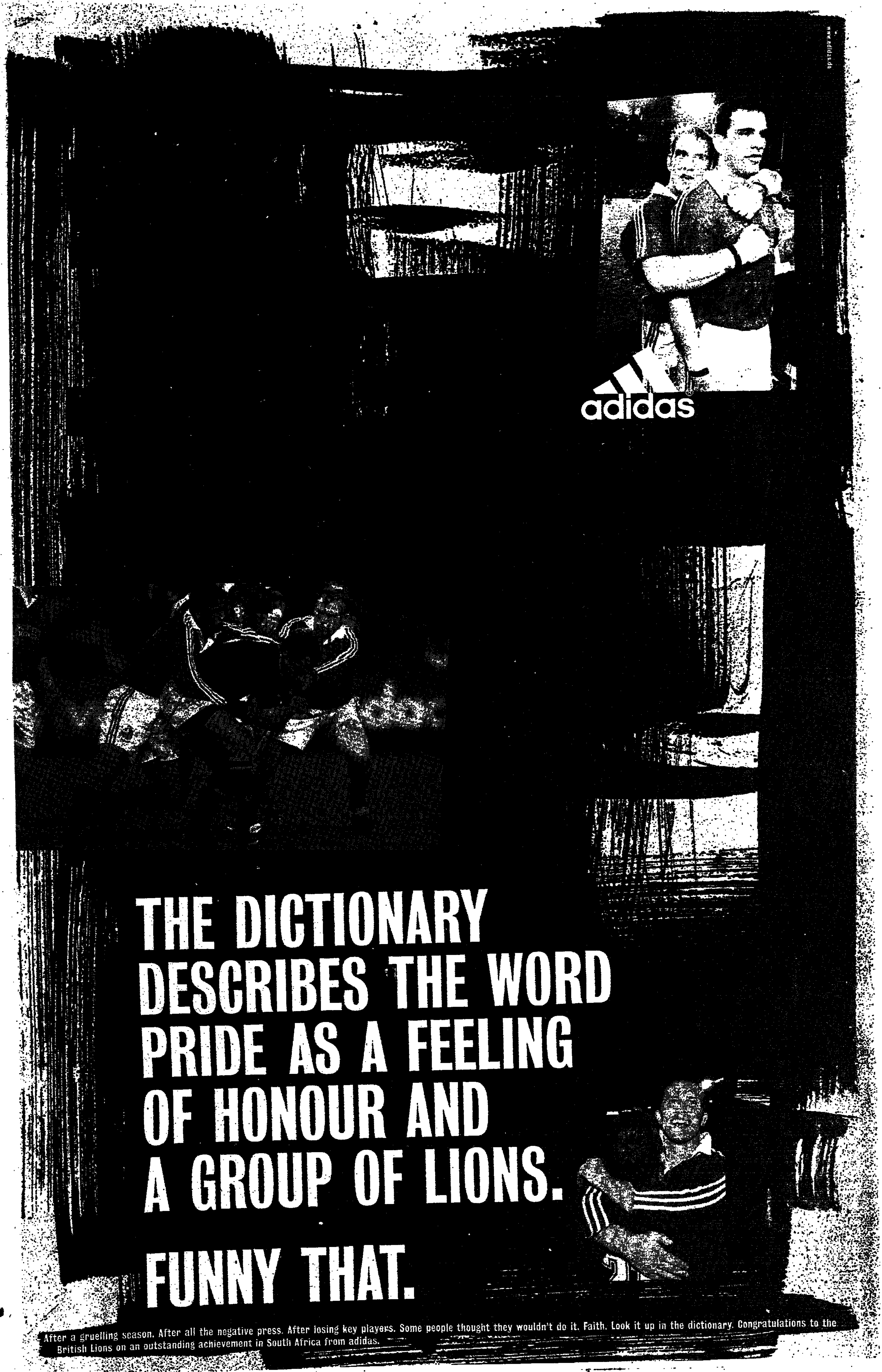

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RACING: IMPRESSIVE ROYAL ASCOT WINNER POISED TO BECOME ONLY THE THIRD FILLY TO CAPTURE SANDOWN'S COVETED PRIZE

Bosra Sham can swoop to glory in Eclipse Stakes

By RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE quote emanated from Geoff Wragg, who saddles Sasuru against the mighty Bosra Sham in the Coral-Eclipse Stakes at Sandown this afternoon, but his words epitomise the thoughts of other trainers reduced to dreaming about the odds-on favourite being defeated.

"My fellow will run a good race but Bosra Sham is an exceptional filly and anyone confident of beating her must be a bit of a madman," the Newmarket handler said.

Certainly only punters with a vivid imagination or those who place more reliance on history books than form books will be tempted to oppose with serious money the horse described by Henry Cecil as the best he has ever trained.

Until recent times, the Eclipse was regarded as a race that fillies could not win, with such illustrious performers as Sceptre, Park Top, Dahlia and *Time Charter* having been thwarted. Almost a century after the race was first run in 1886, Pebbles finally broke the hoodoo in 1985 and Kooyonga followed up in 1992.

Although this year's running of the Eclipse has attracted one of the most select fields for years — including the winners of the Derby, the Breeders' Cup Turf, the Queen Anne Stakes and Prix d'Ispahan — the form book suggests Bosra Sham is about 7lb or three lengths superior to her rivals, judged on an imperious eight-length success over Alhaarth in the Prince of Wales's Stakes at Royal Ascot.

That form was franked in the best possible way when the runner-up won a group two race in Ireland on Sunday: in the same way Bosra Sham's victory on her seasonal appearance over today's course and distance was boosted when Predappio, the runner-up on that occasion, won the Hardwicke Stakes at the expense of Pilsudski, who lines up this afternoon.

The brilliance of the Wafic Said-owned filly, whose only defeat in eight starts followed a 146-day lay-off because of an injured hoof, flows from her ability to quicken decisively in the final quarter mile of a race. Admittedly, Sandown tends to favour front-runners and Benny The Dip will no doubt make a valiant effort to dominate from the front and become the ninth Derby winner to win the Eclipse in the same year — nine have been beaten in the race.

However, **Bosra Sham** should be able to swoop past her rivals up the hill and provide Cecil with his fourth success in the race after Wolver Hollow (1969), Wollow (1976) and Gunner B (1978).

While the day's feature race is one to savour rather than bet on, the Victoria Amateur Turf Club Handicap (5.15) makes considerable appeal. When the stalls are against the far rail, horses drawn high have a big advantage and **Clan Chief**, my long-range hope for the Stewards' Cup at Goodwood, looks worth a wager.

Twice a course and distance winner last year, the Rupert Arnold-trained sprinter ran particularly well on his reappearance at Epsom. Having missed the break, he finished a good fourth just behind Selhurstpark Flyer, the subsequent Wokingham winner.

The four-year-old, who was quietly fancied for the Wokingham but missed the cut, is reported to have come on since then and can oblige here.

Woodrow Wyatt, page 20

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: CLAN CHIEF
(5.15 Sandown Park)

Next best: Whitechapel
(3.35 Haydock Park)

ANDY CLARK

Pilsudski, winner of the Breeders' Cup Turf, is among a small but select field for today's Eclipse Stakes at Sandown

SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER

2.15 Mulahen
2.45 Dalliance
3.20 To The Roof
4.05 Pilsudski
4.40 Philistar
5.15 **THAT MAN AGAIN** (nap)
5.45 Chris's Lad

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.45 Warningford.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT, GOOD IN PLACES — SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING — DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 EBF PADDOCK MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,534: 7f 16yd) (10 runners)

101	(3)		ALMUTAWAKEL (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 9-0	L Dettori	–
102	(1)		CIRCUS (S Manana) C Brittain 9-0	B Doyle	–
103	(10)	3	DA BOSS 12 (R Hamm) W Muir 9-0	Dane O'Neill	94
104	(5)		MARRAN (Prince A Faisal) J Dunlop 9-0	M J Kinane	–
105	(4)	3	MULAHEN 22 (H al-Maktoum) D Morley 9-0	G Carter	⊛
106	(7)		NAUTICAL STAR (M Wauchope) J Hills 9-0	M Hills	–
107	(8)		PETRUCHIO (Super Sprinters) D Chappell 9-0	A Clark	–
108	(9)		RAY'S FOLLY (Mr & Mrs R Green) M Jarvis 9-0	R Cochrane	–
109	(2)		DUE SOUTH (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 8-9	K Fallon	–
110	(6)	0	PRIMAVERA 49 (G Steinberg) M Haynes 8-9	W Ryan	–

BETTING: 11-4 Mulahen, 7-2 Almutawakel, 5-1 Due South, 6-1 Marran, 8-1 Circus, Da Boss, 10-1 Nautical Star, 20-1 others.

1996: GRETEL 8-9 J Reid (7-2) M Stoute 6 ran

2.45 KINGSTON RATED HANDICAP
C4

(£8,894: 1m 14yd) (10 runners)

201	(7)	50/005-	PRINCE OF INDIA 321 (F,G) (Sir Gordon Brunton) Lord Huntingdon 5-9-7	M J Kinane	–
202	(6)	220-105	HAL'S PAL 17 (D) (W Said) D Loder 4-9-4	L Dettori	⊛
203	(5)	Pd/106-0	AUNTY JANE 40 (G) (P Locke) J Dunlop 4-9-2	K Darley	88
204	(8)	203-000	KAYVEE 17 (D,F,G,S) (J Richmond-Watson) Mrs A Perrett 8-9-2	A Clark	98
205	(2)	001-640	CLAN BEN 40 (D,F,S) (Angus Dundee Plc) H Cecil 5-8-12	K Fallon	97
206	(4)	3411643	STAR TALENT 29 (CD,F,G,S) (R Michaelson) I Balding 6-8-9	R Cochrane	98
207	(1)	132-006	MUKADDAR 39 (G) (H al-Maktoum) C Benstead 3-8-8	G Duffield	94
208	(10)	521-031	SHARP REBUFF 11 (D,F,G,S) (D Allen) P Makin 6-8-7	S Sanders	98
209	(3)	541	WARNINGFORD 21 (C,G) (Barford Bloodstock II) J Fanshawe 3-8-5	D Harrison	97
210	(9)	05123	DALLIANCE 21 (V) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 3-8-4	W Ryan	96

BETTING: 7-2 Warningford, 5-1 Sharp Rebuff, Star Talent, 6-1 Hal's Pal, 7-1 Dalliance, 8-1 Clan Ben, 12-1 Aunty Jane, Mukaddar, 16-1 Kayvee, Prince Of India.

1996: CONCER UN 4-8-8 M Hills (6-1 jt-fav) S C Williams 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

HAL'S PAL about 1½l 5th of 32 to Red Robbo in Hunt Cup at Royal Ascot (1m, good to firm) with KAYVEE (4lb better off) 7½l 15th. CLAN BEN 4½l 4th of 12 to Give Me A Ring in handicap at York (1m 2f 85yd, good). STAR TALENT 2¾l 3rd of 18 to Philistar in handicap at Epsom (1m 114yd, good). SHARP REBUFF beat Veni Vidi Vici 1½l in handicap at Warwick (1m, good). WARNINGFORD beat Shawm 3l in maiden here (7f, good to firm). DALLIANCE 1¼l 3rd of 9 to Rudimental in handicap here (1m 1f, good to firm).
Selection: HAL'S PAL

3.20 SANDOWN PARK SPRINT STAKES
C4

(Listed race: £11,523: 5f 6yd) (14 runners)

301	(6)	111-060	ASTRAC 15 (B,F,S) (T Beecroft) Guy Kelleway 6-9-7	K Fallon	90
302	(12)	6-51510	YA MALAK 15 (D,F,G,S) (Contrac Promotions Ltd) D Nicholls 6-9-7	Alex Greaves	⊛
303	(3)	016216-	EVENINGPERFORMANCE 272 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs D Blackburn) H Candy 6-9-5	C Rutter	98
304	(4)	0-14330	BOLSHOI 15 (B,D,F,G) (Mrs D Brown) J Berry 5-9-3	K Darley	96
305	(5)	2-30280	BRAVE EDGE 15 (CD,F,G) (Homs Vale Racing Ptnrs) R Hannon 6-9-3	Dane O'Neill	97
306	(11)	26100-5	STRUGGLER 15 (D,F,G) (Lord Lloyd-Webber) D Loder 5-9-3	L Dettori	97
307	(10)	4-30660	SYLVA PARADISE 15 (F,S) (E Grimstead Honda Ltd) C Brittain 4-9-3	B Doyle	93
308	(9)	054-110	TEDBURROW 16 (CD,F,S) (P Davies) E Alston 5-9-3	A Culhane	95
309	(14)	2-25646	TO THE ROOF 15 (D,F,G) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 5-9-3	M Hills	96
310	(1)	3-210	CATHEDRAL 15 (D,F) (Kennet Valley Ltd) B Meehan 3-8-12	J Weaver	84
311	(7)	66-4031	JOHNNY STACCATO 21 (CD,G,S) (J Smith) J Eustace 3-8-12	J Tate	93
312	(2)	643-050	OMAHA CITY 17 (D,F) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 3-8-12	A Clark	83
313	(13)	40215-0	PROUD NATIVE 80 (D,F,G) (L Fust) A Jarvis 3-8-12	M J Kinane	95
314	(8)	6260543	SALLY SLADE 8 (D,F,G,S) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 5-8-12	G Duffield	68

BETTING: 7-2 Struggler, 5-1 To The Roof, Ya Malak, 6-1 Eveningperformance, 8-1 Bolshoi, 10-1 Tedburrow, Johnny Staccato, 12-1 Cathedral, 14-1 others.

1996: EVENINGPERFORMANCE 5-9-2 C Rutter (7-1) H Candy 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

YA MALAK beat Dashing Blue 5l in 12-runner listed handicap at Epsom (5f, good). BOLSHOI ¾l 3rd of 7 to Catch The Blues in the group III Ballyogan Stakes at Leopardstown (5f, good). BRAVE EDGE ¾l 2nd of 10 to Croft Pool in the group II Tripleprint Temple Stakes over course and distance (good) with BOLSHOI head 3rd. YA MALAK (4lb worse off) about ¾l 5th and SYLVA PARADISE ¾l 6th. STRUGGLER 3¾l 6th of 18 to Don't Worry Me in the group II King's Stand Stakes at Royal Ascot (5f, good to soft) with BOLSHOI ¾l 8th, YA MALAK (4lb worse off) ¾l 10th, CATHEDRAL (1lb worse off) 2¾l 13th, BRAVE EDGE 1l 16th and SYLVA PARADISE 4l 18th. TEDBURROW 5½l 10th of 23 to Royal Applause in the group III Cork And Orrery Stakes at Royal Ascot (6f, good). JOHNNY STACCATO beat Crowded Avenue neck in 9-runner conditions stakes over course and distance (good to firm).
Selection: YA MALAK

4.05 CORAL-ECLIPSE STAKES
C4

(Group I: £97,200: 1m 2f 7yd) (5 runners)

401	(5)	00011-1	ALLIED FORCES 18 (F,G,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-9-7	L Dettori	85
402	(1)	1121-32	PILSUDSKI 15 (BF,CD,F,G,S) (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 5-9-7	M J Kinane	85
403	(3)	4111-11	SASURU 41 (CD,F,G,S) (A Oppenheimer) G Wragg 4-9-7	M Hills	84
404	(4)	1121-11	BOSRA SHAM 18 (CD,F,G,S) (W Said) H Cecil 4-9-4	K Fallon	⊛
405	(2)	113-211	BENNY THE DIP 28 (D,F,G) (L Knight) J Gosden 3-8-10	W Ryan	90

BETTING: 4-6 Bosra Sham, 3-1 Pilsudski, 6-1 Benny The Dip, 8-1 Sasuru, 16-1 Allied Forces.

1996: HALLING 5-9-7 J Reid (100-30) S bin Suroor 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALLIED FORCES beat Centre Stalls neck in the 11-runner group II Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot (1m, good). PILSUDSKI ¾l 2nd of 10 to Predappio in the group II Hardwicke Stakes at Royal Ascot (1m 4f, good). SASURU beat Wixim short-neck in the 6-runner group I Prix D'Ispahan at Longchamp (1m 1f, very soft). BOSRA SHAM beat Alhaarth 8l in the 6-runner group II Prince Of Wales's Stakes at Royal Ascot (1m 2f, good). BENNY THE DIP beat Silver Patriarch short-head in the 13-runner group I Derby Stakes at Epsom (1m 4f, good).
Selection: BOSRA SHAM (nap)

4.40 WIMBLEDON HANDICAP
C4

(£11,040: 1m 2f 7yd) (14 runners)

501	(13)	44141/2	NIGHT WATCH 31 (C,F,G) (The Queen) I Balding 4-9-11	L Dettori	–
502	(11)	5110-6	STRAZO 9 (F,S) (E Rastelli) Lady Herries 4-9-9	R Cochrane	90
503	(7)	311-025	TYKEYVOR 17 (CD,F) (Seymour Bloodstock Ltd) Lady Herries 7-9-7	G Duffield	94
504	(9)	0305-00	STORY LINE 21 (S) (Story Line Partnership) D Arbuthnot 4-9-5	D Harrison	93
505	(4)	31-1141	BREAK THE RULES 10 (D,F,G,S) (A A Bloodstock Ltd) D Nicholls 5-9-3	Alex Greaves	96
506	(5)	0/0020-	GONE FOR A BURTON 238 (D,F,S) (H Carrington) P Makin 7-9-3	S Sanders	93
507	(6)	100-042	CONSPICUOUS 14 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Hopkins) L Cottrell 7-9-3	K Darley	98
508	(10)	0200-01	FLYING NORTH 24 (D,F,G) (Dr G Meredith) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-13	A Culhane	93
509	(2)	360-321	ORSAY 22 (CD,G,S) (D Oser) W Muir 5-8-13	K Fallon	95
510	(14)	6321111	PHILISTAR 19 (D,F,G) (N Shields) K Burke 4-8-9	B Doyle	⊛
511	(8)	0510	ASEF ALHIND 18 (F) (H al-Maktoum) B Hanbury 3-8-5	M Hills	94
512	(1)	2-00504	TROJAN RISK 15 (F) (J McCarthy) G Lewis 4-8-4	Paul Eddery	97
513	(3)	661	PATRIOT GAMES 49 (F) (A Ingleby-Mackenzie) M Stoute 3-8-4	W Ryan	96
514	(12)	10-4600	DARK AGE 8 (D) (A Spence) R Akehurst 4-8-3	A Clark	90

BETTING: 9-2 Patriot Games, 5-1 Conspicuous, 6-1 Orsay, 7-1 Asef Alhind, 8-1 Philistar, 10-1 Flying North, Tykeyvor, 12-1 Break The Rules, 14-1 Night Watch, Trojan Risk, 16-1 others.

1996: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

NIGHT WATCH beat Dublin River 4l in conditions stakes at Pontefract (1m, good). TYKEYVOR 6l 5th of 19 to Zaralaska in Bessborough Handicap at Royal Ascot (1m 4f, good to firm). BREAK THE RULES beat Nicola's Princess 7l in claimer at Chester (1m 2f 75yd, soft). CONSPICUOUS short-head 2nd of 13 to Winter Romance in handicap at Ascot (1m 2f, soft). FLYING NORTH beat Askern 8l in 6-runner handicap at Beverley (1m 2f, good to firm). ORSAY beat Game Play neck in 8-runner handicap over course and distance (good to firm).
Selection: FLYING NORTH

5.15 VICTORIA AMATEUR TURF CLUB HANDICAP
(£5,810: 5f 6yd) (13 runners)

601	(6)	-440525	MY BEST VALENTINE 28 (F,G) (Valentines) V Soane 7-10-0	R Cochrane	96
602	(5)	360-506	SPEED ON 28 (D,F) (P Deal) H Candy 4-10-0	C Rutter	91
603	(7)	12/445-	MUSIC GOLD 275 (B,D,F) (N Yong) W O'Gorman 4-9-11	D Harrison	88
604	(10)	00-4402	THAT MAN AGAIN 15 (CD,F,G) (J Duffy & R Duffy) S C Williams 5-9-4	K Darley	⊛
605	(11)	0052011	WHITE EMIR 10 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Three Bears Racing) B Meehan 4-9-3	B Doyle	92
606	(8)	2001446	ZIGGY'S DANCER 8 (D,F,G) (J Barry) E Alston 6-9-3	K Fallon	97
607	(9)	11121-4	CLAN CHIEF 28 (CD,F,G) (P Lowe) J Arnold 4-9-2	A Clark	92
608	(13)	54205-0	GALINE 63 (D,F) (S Fustok) W O Gorman 4-9-1	Emma O'Gorman	91
609	(2)	0-21034	GONE SAVAGE 22 (BF,CD,F,G,S) (Square Table) W Musson 9-8-13	L Dettori	98
610	(4)	-300062	RUDI'S PET 6 (B,CD,G) (Broadgate Partnership) R Hannon 3-8-12	Dane O'Neill	94
611	(12)	0502112	BARRANAK 7 (D,F,G) (M MacCarthy) G McCourt 5-7-12	M Baird (3)	95
612	(3)	/0600-0	AKALIM 45 (F) (J Boswell) L Cottrell 4-7-11	Aimee Cook (5)	86
613	(1)	2434500	SCISSOR RIDGE 19 (D,F) (D Smith) J Bridger 5-7-10	P Doe (7)	85

BETTING: 4-1 Gone Savage, 5-1 White Emir, 6-1 That Man Again, Rudi's Pet, 7-1 Speed On, Clan Chief, 10-1 Ziggy's Dancer, 12-1 others.

1996: LORD HIGH ADMIRAL 8-9-1 J Reid (7-2 fav) M Heaton-Ellis 9 ran

5.45 SPINAL INJURIES ASSOCIATION HANDICAP
(£5,160: 2m 78yd) (8 runners)

1	(1)	-042312	ROYAL EXPRESSION 10 (D,F,G) (Mrs A Roddick) F Jordan 5-10-0	K Darley	95
2	(8)	6413-10	BOWCLIFFE COURT 59 (D,F,S) (A Spence) R Akehurst 5-9-13	S Sanders	88
3	(2)	/6-0250	NANTON POINT 18 (D,F,G) (L Lazarus) Lady Herries 5-9-10	R Cochrane	91
4	(4)	2/0-451	DARK WATERS 21 (D) (B March) N Graham 4-9-6	L Dettori	89
5	(6)	113130	GRAND CRU 18 (D,S) (A Spargo Ltd Tastemakers) J Cullinan 6-9-1	W Ryan	98
6	(5)	00-111	RAMIKE 61 (F,S) (Miss B Lee) M Johnston 3-8-11	J Weaver	91
7	(3)	-006010	CHRIS'S LAD 21 (B,BF,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs S McCarthy) B Meehan 6-8-7	B Doyle	⊛
8	(7)	0-64112	RIGHT MAN 14 (BF,G,S) (S Wright) G Lewis 3-8-5	Paul Eddery	91

BETTING: 5-2 Chris's Lad, 7-2 Right Man, 5-1 Ramike, 6-1 Bowcliffe Court, 8-1 Dark Waters, Nanton Point, 10-1 Grand Cru, 12-1 Royal Expression.

1996: PEARL VENTURE 4-9-5 W Woods (12-1) S Woods 13 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
S bin Suroor	6	12	50.0	J Tate	7	23	30.4
S Williams	4	9	44.4	L Dettori	40	203	19.7
M Johnston	11	48	22.9	J Weaver	11	59	18.6
J Berry	9	43	20.9	G Carter	11	61	18.0
J Gosden	21	105	20.0	M J Kinane	10	58	17.2
J Fanshawe	13	65	20.0	K Fallon	6	39	15.4

HAYDOCK PARK

THUNDERER

2.35 Kinnescash
3.05 Tulipa
3.35 Dreams End
4.10 Monza
4.45 Woodland Melody
5.20 Nigrasine

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.35 **ZARALASKA**.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.35 Heritage.
4.10 **BOLD DEMAND** (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT — DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST — SIS

2.35 SHADWELL STUD APPRENTICE SERIES HANDICAP
(£3,110: 1m 2f 120yd) (8 runners)

1	(1)	000-004	TREMPLIN 22 (S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 5-9-10	T E Durcan	91
2	(5)	-606163	ALSAHIB 5 (S Channing-Williams) W Muir 4-9-5	J Wilkinson	92
3	(4)	020-411	KINNESCASH 5 (F,S) (D James) P Bowen 4-9-4 (5ex)	A Daly	⊛
4	(2)	02-060	BURUNDI 16 (V) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 3-9-0	R Winston	92
5	(6)	00-046	WATHBAT NASHWAN 16 (BF) (Sheikh A al-Maktoum) L Cumani 3-9-0	R Ffrench	98
6	(8)	3-46532	LEIF THE LUCKY 6 (G,S) (Miss B Duxbury) Miss S Hall 8-8-9	P Roberts	95
7	(7)	2503513	AMBIDEXTROUS 5 (BF,D,F,G) (Mrs C McPhail) E Alston 5-8-9	C Lowther	95
8	(3)	115/46-	SUIVEZ 83 (D,F) (A Peake) Mrs N Macauley 7-8-5	R Mullen	88

BETTING: 5-2 Kinnescash, 7-2 Wathbat Nashwan, 11-2 Tremplin, 7-1 Alsahib, Leif The Lucky, 8-1 Burundi, Ambidextrous, 20-1 Suivez.

1996: NOBLE SPRINTER 4-9-6 Elizabeth Turner (9-1) W Haggas 10 ran

3.05 LETHEBY & CHRISTOPHER LANCASHIRE OAKS
C4

(Group III: £20,440: 1m 3f 200yd) (8 runners)

1	(6)	1210-01	TULIPA 20 (D,F,G) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-9-8	Pat Eddery	98
2	(5)	1426-1	CAMPORESE 58 (C,S) (M Tabor) P Chapple-Hyam 4-9-8	J Reid	⊛
3	(1)	2166-05	WOODREN 64 (F) (Miss K Rausing) R Guest 4-9-3	J Carroll	84
4	(4)	0-26044	ALCALALI 16 (L Norris) P Kelleway 3-8-4	R Hills	89
5	(7)	54-0220	ATTITRE 29 (F) (R Pledger) C Brittain 3-8-4	J Fortune	90
6	(8)	6110	MAID OF CAMELOT 16 (B,F,S) (A Oppenheimer) R Charlton 3-8-4	T Sprake	90
7	(2)	11-1	SQUEAK 23 (F,G) (Lord Hartington) J Gosden 3-8-4	G Hind	88
8	(3)	65-1116	STAR PRECISION 16 (BF,D,G,S) (Miss B Swire) G Balding 3-8-4	R Price	87

BETTING: 7-4 Camporese, 7-2 Tulipa, Squeak, 7-1 Maid of Camelot, 8-1 Star Precision, 14-1 Attitre, 16-1 Alcalali, 33-1 Woodren.

1996: SPOUT 4-9-6 T Sprake (13-2) R Charlton 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

TULIPA beat Papering neck in the 6-runner group III Premio Legnano at San Siro (1m 4f, good). CAMPORESE beat Maroussie 5l in the 7-runner group III Tierce Prix Corrida at Parilly Lyon (1m 3f, holding). ALCALALI about 12½l 4th of 9 to Yashmak in the group II Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot (1m 4f, good). ATTITRE 1l 2nd of 9 to Nicole Pharly in the group I Oaks d'Italia at San Siro (1m 3f, good).
MAID OF CAMELOT beat Priena 1¼l in 7-runner listed race at Goodwood (1m 2f, good). SQUEAK beat Priena ½l in 10-runner listed race at Newbury (1m 2f, good).
Selection: SQUEAK

3.35 LETHEBY & CHRISTOPHER OLD NEWTON CUP
C4

(Handicap: £36,800: 1m 3f 200yd) (16 runners)

1	(11)	3-12622	NABHAAN 17 (D,F,G) (H al-Maktoum) D Morley 4-9-10	R Hills	97
2	(13)	2/00-51	ZARALASKA 17 (D,F,G) (Fitocks Stud Ltd) L Cumani 6-9-8	Pat Eddery	⊛
3	(2)	/014002	ROCKFORCE 6 (F,G) (G Mazel) M Channon 5-8-12	P P Murphy (3)	90
4	(15)	45-3360	ROKEBY BOWL 17 (G) (P Mellon) I Balding 5-8-9	J Reid	93
5	(9)	30-2603	CELESTIAL CHOIR 8 (G,D,F,G,S) (Mrs C Sykes) J Eyre 7-8-5	J Fortune	90
6	(10)	304-001	WHITECHAPEL 58 (D,G,S) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 9-8-3	T Quinn	97
7	(5)	44-3610	DREAMS END 17 (D,G,S) (T Price) P Bowen 9-8-2	A Daly (5)	95
8	(1)	2020-50	WILD RITA 17 (D,F,G) (Perspicacious Punters) W Muir 5-8-0	T Sprake	97
9	(3)	-002200	REMAADI SUN 14 (D,F) (T Barker) M Usher 5-7-13	R Street	98
10	(6)	4-311	HERITAGE 16 (C,D,S) (Highclere Ltd) J Gosden 3-7-12	Martin Dwyer (3)	92
11	(8)	40-3511	TESSAJOE 18 (D,F,G) (Riley Partnership) M Camacho 5-7-12	L Charnock	93
12	(7)	-000114	MAZUREK 17 (D,F) (Kammac Plc) M Pipe 4-7-11	R Ffrench (5)	95
13	(4)	600-602	MY LEARNED FRIEND 15 (C,D,F,G) (Mrs J Roberts) A Hide 6-7-11	R Mullen (5)	92
14	(16)	1221251	RAFFLES ROOSTER 21 (D,S) (M Leatham) A Newcombe 5-7-10	R Winston (7)	91
15	(14)	310	ASSURED GAMBLE 17 (D,G) (P Head) C Brittain 3-7-10	Dale Gibson	90
16	(12)	121	CYRIAN 49 (D,S) (Lord Donoughmore) P Cole 3-7-10	J Quinn	88

Long handicap: Raffles Rooster 7-9, Assured Gamble 7-8, Cyrian 7-7

BETTING: 5-1 Heritage, 5-1 Zaralaska, 7-1 Whitechapel, 8-1 Mazurek, 10-1 Cyrian, Nabhaan, 12-1 Dreams End, 16-1 My Learned Friend, Raffles Rooster, Rockforce, Rokeby Bowl, 20-1 others.

1996: KEY TO MY HEART 6-10-0 R Hughes (9-2) Miss S Hall 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ZARALASKA beat NABHAAN (8lb better off) 2½l in the 19-runner Bessborough Handicap at Royal Ascot (1m 4f, good to firm) with MAZUREK (13lb better off) 3½l 4th, ROKEBY BOWL (13lb better off) 1l 8th, WILD RITA (13lb better off) ½l 9th and ROCKFORCE (12lb better off) 6½l 16th. WHITECHAPEL beat Sharp Consul neck in 7-runner handicap at Newbury (1m 4f, good to soft). DREAMS END beat Eurobox Boy 1¾l in 16-runner handicap at York (1m 1f, good to soft). HERITAGE beat Taunt 1l in the 20-runner King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot (1m 4f, good). RAFFLES ROOSTER beat Shaffishayes 3l in 14-runner ladies handicap at York (1m 4f, good to soft) with CELESTIAL CHOIR (15lb better off) 13l 10th. CYRIAN beat Winter Garden short-head in 10-runner handicap at Newbury (1m 4f, soft).
Selection: HERITAGE

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.10 HAYDOCK PARK JULY TROPHY STAKES
(Listed race: 3-Y-O: £12,250: 1m 3f 200yd) (6 runners)

1	(6)	4-210	BOLD DEMAND 28 (F) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-10	R Hills	85
2	(4)	6-415	GARUDA 28 (BF,S) (B Demuyser) J Dunlop 8-10	T Sprake	89
3	(3)	133-123	IVAN LUIS 41 (D,F,G) (L Gaucci) M Bell 8-10	T Quinn	98
4	(2)	01-22	MANDILAK 12 (BF,G) (H H Aga Khan) L Cumani 8-10	Pat Eddery	92
5	(1)	1d1-052	MONZA 14 (F) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-10	J Reid	96
6	(5)	22-3453	MUSICAL DANCER 15 (F) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 8-10	R Hughes	⊛

BETTING: 2-1 Monza, 3-1 Bold Demand, 9-2 Ivan Luis, 11-2 Garuda, Mandilak, Musical Dancer.

1996: ROYAL COURT 8-10 D Harrison (15-8) P Chapple-Hyam 5 ran

4.45 EBF BELLCHARM CITROEN NOVICE FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,738: 6f) (10 runners)

1	(6)	511	ROYAL DREAM 16 (D,F,S) (Mrs B Matthews) J Berry 9-4	P Fessey (3)	83
2	(10)	10	BALANCE THE BOOKS 16 (G) (M Suhail) R Hannon 9-0	R Hughes	98
3	(1)	13	SEA MAGIC 22 (C,S) (R Richards) B Hills 9-0	Pat Eddery	88
4	(9)	1	PICCOLO CATIVO 58 (J Gittins) J H Wilson 8-10	Angela Hartley (7)	80
5	(3)		CAROLINE'S PET (G White) A Bailey 8-8	A Mackay	–
6	(2)	3	LIKELY STORY 28 (M Page) J Dunlop 8-8	T Quinn	⊛
7	(8)	4	PHANTOM RING 10 (R Bailey) A Bailey 8-8	P Roberts (5)	–
8	(7)		RENARDRA (Treble Chance Partnership) P Evans 8-8	J Fortune	–
9	(4)		ROBEENA (Village Green Racing) C Allen 8-8	Martin Dwyer (3)	–
10	(5)		WOODLAND MELODY (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-8	J Reid	–

BETTING: 2-1 Woodland Melody, 5-2 Likely Story, 5-1 Royal Dream, 8-1 Balance The Books, 10-1 others.

1996: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

5.20 B T RACEPAGER COCK OTHE NORTH HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £5,323: 6f) (9 runners)

1	(6)	4-25340	GRANNY'S PET 35 (B,F) (Mrs O Arbib) P Cole 9-7	T Quinn	90
2	(9)	242-050	NIGRASINE 18 (D,F,G) (M Gleeson) J Eyre 9-6	O Pears (3)	89
3	(4)	232130-	JUST VISITING 297 (D,G) (Mrs R Moszkowicz) J H Wilson 8-13	J Fortune	90
4	(7)	33-412	FURNISH 14 (G) (K Abdulla) B Hills 8-7	Pat Eddery	⊛
5	(1)	21-0400	RESTLESS SPIRIT 7 (D,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Johnston 8-6	K M Chin (3)	96
6	(5)	1-25604	ELLENS LAD 47 (F,S) (Mrs C Harrington) R Hannon 8-6	J Reid	92
7	(3)	0-5351	COMPATIBILITY 9 (D,F) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-2	G Hind	98
8	(8)	00-0855	BLUES QUEEN 10 (D,F) (Maygain Ltd) M Channon 8-1	P P Murphy (3)	98
9	(2)	11233	ROCK ISLAND LINE 10 (BF,F,S) (Timeform) J Berry 7-10	P Fessey (3)	93

Long handicap: Rock Island Line 7-6.

BETTING: 7-4 Compatibility, 9-2 Furnish, 6-1 Rock Island Line, Ellens Lad, 10-1 Granny's Pet, 12-1 others.

1996: GADSY BABE 9-7 J Quinn (6-1) J J Quinn 7 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
P Chapple-Hyam	10	36	27.8	Pat Eddery	24	75	32.0
E Dunlop	3	11	27.3	T Quinn	10	50	20.0
J Dunlop	24	105	22.9	T Sprake	10	51	19.6
B Hills	16	74	21.6	J Reid	12	75	16.0
J Gosden	19	96	19.8	R Hughes	5	46	10.9

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Bath (first race, 2.00), *Musselburgh* (2.15), Ripon (Sky, 7.00), Windsor (Sky, 6.40)

TUESDAY: Newmarket (C4, 2.05), *Pontefract* (2.20).

WEDNESDAY: Newmarket (C4, 2.05), Folkestone (2.20), Epsom (Sky, 6.30), Worcester (Sky, 6.45)

THURSDAY: Newmarket (C4, 2.05), Lingfield Park (AW, 1.50), Southwell (AW, 2.15).

FRIDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 2.30), York (C4, 2.10), Wolverhampton (AW, 2.20), Chepstow (Sky, 6.40), Chester (Sky, 6.30), Hamilton Park (6.50).

SATURDAY: Chester (2.10), Lingfield Park (2.20), Salisbury (2.15), York (C4, 2.00), Warwick (6.30), Southwell (6.45)

Flat meetings in bold

RACELINE

0930 168+	COMMENTARY	RESULTS
SANDOWN	101	201
HAYDOCK	102	202
BEVERLEY	103	203
CHEPSTOW	104	204
NOTT'HAM	105	205
CARLISLE	106	206
W'HAMPTON	107	207
IRISH	120	220

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Struggler to leave rivals toiling

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

SANDOWN PARK
CHANNEL 4

2.45: Hal's Pal produced a career best effort from a moderate draw when just under two lengths fifth to Red Robbo in the Royal Hunt Cup. A reproduction of that form would give the David Loder-trained runner every chance here, but he has not always looked resolute and all three wins have come on the all-weather.

Warningford won a maiden in taking style here three weeks ago but **Star Talent**, a course and distance winner on similar going in April, can strike again. The Ian Balding-trained runner has shown even better form in three subsequent runs, particularly when third to Philistar at Epsom last time.

3.20: A high draw is likely to prove essential here and **Struggler** has sound claims now that he has been dropped in class. The five-year-old arguably ran his best race last year over course and distance behind Mind Games in the Temple Stakes, and he performed well from a poor draw on his seasonal reappearance in the King's Stand Stakes (Ya Malak, Bolshoi and Sylva Paradise behind). Significantly, he raced more prominently than usual and similar tactics here should enable Frankie Dettori to make the best of his draw. To The Roof, drawn next to the rail, has bags of early speed and looks the main danger.

4.05: See above.

4.40: **Asef Alhind** stepped up on his Beverley maiden-winning form when leading for six furlongs in the Britannia Handicap and staying on well to be beaten less than 3½ lengths. His style of racing will be suited to this track and, with further improvement likely, he gets a narrow vote.

Michael Stoute's Patriot Games, the only other three-year-old in the race, looks fairly weighted for his handicap debut, while Orsay appreciated the step up in trip here last time and looks best of the older horses.

HAYDOCK PARK
CHANNEL 4

3.05: It is always dangerous to underestimate unbeaten horses and although Squeak, winner of all three starts, must improve again to feature here, she is on the upgrade. Tulipa, winner of the Ribblesdale Stakes last year, beat Papering in a group three race in Milan last month but preference is for **Camporese**. After winning her maiden on similar ground here by nine lengths last year she went on to finish fourth in the Oaks, but showed even better form in the mud at Lyon two months ago. With ground conditions in her favour, she can oblige.

3.35: Heritage, who won his maiden here in May, is likely to start a short-priced favourite after his success in the King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot, and the St Leger entry must go well. However, I just prefer the in-form **Whitechapel**. The Queen's admirably tough runner has been raised only 4lb for winning a fast-run race at Newbury 50 days ago and can score again. Cyrian, who beat Winter Garden at Newbury seven weeks ago, is best of the rest.

RICHARD EVANS

BEVERLEY

THUNDERER
2.00 Bint Nadia. 2.30 Grand Splendour. 3.00 Night Chorus. 3.30 Present Chance. 4.00 Bowlers Boy. 4.30 Classic Line. 5.00 Starmaker.

GOING: HEAVY — SIS
DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.00 PAUL TEAGUE AND LARA KING SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,889: 7f 100yd) (15 runners)

1	3304	DIAMOND STEVE 17 (V,G) N Tinkler 9-4	Iona Wands (5) 12
2	0000	ARE YER THERE 18 M W Easterby 8-11	J Lowe 4
3		DISCO TEX M W Easterby 8-11	T Lucas 13
4	000	DOBNA'S DOUBLE 18 N Tinkler 8-11	Kim Tinkler 3
5	0032	GREENBROOK 14 W G M Turner 8-11	D Sweeney (5) 5
6	0	LUDERE 25 W Haigh 8-11	R Lappin 7
7	0040	MARGARET'S DANCER 29 C Smith 8-11	D O'Donohoe (3) 2
8	0	SON OF SKELTON 18 J Wharton 8-11	F Lynch 10
9	65	BINT NADIA 8 J Bethell 8-6	M Fenton 14
10	00C	DANCING EM 18 T Easterby 8-6	T Williams 11
11	5	DUTCH PATRIARCH 33 M W Easterby 8-6	G Parkin (5) 1
12	02	KATIE'S CRACKER 29 M Channon 8-6	R Painter 6
13	0	LADY SO BOLD 14 Mrs L Stubbs 8-6	D Wright 15
14	40	LAST LAP 14 T Easterby 8-6	Dean McKeown 9
15	0	MUSICAL PET 36 J Eyre 8-6	M Gallagher 8

3-1 Katie's Cracker, 4-1 Greenbrook, 5-1 Bint Nadia, 8-1 Last Lap, 12-1 Diamond Steve, Ludere, Dancing Em, Dutch Patriarch, Musical Pet, 16-1 others.

2.30 HULL MITSUBISHI CENTRE LADY AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(£2,630: 1m 1f 207yd) (5)

1	1500	MELS BABY 14 (CD,F,S) J Eyre 4-11-7	Diana Jones 3
2	0043	GRAND SPLENDOUR 15 (BF) Lady Herries 4-11-5	M Cowdrey 2
3	0-25	LEVITICUS 21 T Tate 3-10-13	A Deniel (4) 1
4	00F4	GOLD BLADE 14 (CD,F,G) J Pearce 8-10-6	L Pearce 4
5	-000	BREEZED WELL 8 (C,F,G) K Wingrove 11-9-5	H Moorcroft (4) 5

11-8 Grand Splendour, 7-2 Mels Baby, Leviticus, 4-1 Gold Blade, 12-1 Breezed Well.

3.00 MILLERS MILE HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £5,082: 1m 100yd) (7)

1	0-1	GANGA 7 (D,S) W Jarvis 9-7	D O'Donohoe (3) 3
2	5-54	GHARIB 57 A Stewart 8-8	T Williams 6
3	4322	YABINT EL SULTAN 12 B McMahon 8-6	L Newton 1
4	1300	NIGHT CHORUS 28 (D,S) B Rothwell 8-6	M Fenton 2
5	C34-	LORD DISCORD 278 T Easterby 7-13	D Wright 5
6	1011	DEE PEE TEE CEE 9 (C,D,F,G) M W Easterby 7-12	J Lowe 4
7	6325	PETITE RISK 49 K Hogg 7-10	J Bramhill 7

5-4 Dee Pee Tee Cee, 9-2 Ganga, Yabint El Sultan, 5-1 Gharib, 8-1 Night Chorus, 10-1 Lord Discord, 16-1 Petite Risk.

3.30 BBC RADIO HUMBERSIDE MAIDEN STAKES
(£4,237: 5f) (13)

1	0/	EASY NOMI 1013 K Hogg 7-9-5	M Gallagher 4
2	-000	SEANCHAI 110 P Felgate 4-9-5	J Fanning 3
3	0040	DONA FILIPA 21 Miss L Siddall 4-9-0	Dean McKeown 5
4	0600	FANCY CLANCY 12 Miss L Siddall 4-9-0	T Siddall (7) 10
5	6-6	HARVEY'S FUTURE 28 T Clement 3-9-0	G Faulkner (5) 11
6	0000	HYPE SUPERIOR 28 A Bailey 3-9-0	D Wright 6
7		JUST BLINK S C Williams 4-9-0	D O'Donohoe (3) 9
8	5	MISCHIEVOUS TIME 28 A Smith 3-9-0	R Lappin 1
9	2220	PRESENT CHANCE 8 B McMahon 3-9-0	L Newton 7
10	3222	ARCHELLO 14 (V) G Oldroyd 3-8-9	G Parkin (5) 2
11	5020	BLUE LAMP 19 (B,BF) M Jarvis 3-8-9	F Lynch 13
12	0-	MARY MAGDALENE 254 M Bell 3-8-9	M Fenton 12
13		OKRA J Bethell 3-8-9	R Havlin (3) 8

9-4 Archello, 3-1 Blue Lamp, Present Chance, 7-1 Mary Magdalene, 10-1 others.

4.00 RACING CHANNEL HANDICAP (£3,730: 5f) (10)

1	3000	FOR THE PRESENT 15 (F,G) T Barron 7-10-0	R Cappin 3
2	1234	LADY SHERIFF 8 (B,CD,F,G) M W Easterby 6-9-10	T Lucas 5
3	-003	TART AND A HALF 16 (V,D,F) J Eyre 5-9-7	G Parkin (5) 2
4	0305	HIGH DOMAIN 7 (D,G,S) J Spearing 6-9-3	Dean McKeown 7
5	0502	BOWLERS BOY 19 (D,F) J J Quinn 4-9-1	N Connorton 9
6	4125	SHADOW JURY 17 (B,CD,S) D Chapman 7-8-13	D Sweeney (5) 8
7	3150	NAPOLEON STAR 5 (D,F) S Bowring 6-8-0	J Bramhill 10
8	6620	CAMIONNEUR 29 (B,BF,F) T Easterby 4-7-10	D Wright 1
9	2000	CRAIGIE BOY 4 (V,G,S) N Bycroft 7-7-10	N Kennedy 8
10	0003	TUTU SIXTYSIX 5 (D,F,G) Don Enrico Incisa 6-7-10	Kim Tinkler 4

7-2 Bowlers Boy, 4-1 Tart And A Half, Lady Sheriff, Camionneur, 7-1 others.

4.30 BLAIR JACOBS HANDICAP (£3,062: 2m) (6)

1	5501	AMIARGE 7 (D,F,G,S) M Brittain 7-9-10	D Wright 5
2	1108	KINOKO 49 (CD,F,G,S) K Hogg 9-9-7	Dean McKeown 2
3	0-51	CLASSIC LINE 14 (G) J Dunlop 3-9-5	D O'Donohoe (3) 3
4	660-	SOPHIE LOCKETT 330 K Hogg 4-8-13	F Lynch 1
5	0/01	BLACK ICE BOY 10 (B,F) R Bastiman 6-8-5	D Sweeney (5) 4
6	400-	MEMORABLE 583J (S) K Hogg 6-8-3	J Bramhill 6

5-4 Classic Line, 100-30 Amiarge, 4-1 Black Ice Boy, 5-1 Kinoko, 20-1 others.

5.00 JEREMY BUXTON AND JUDI MURDEN NOVICE STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,724: 7f 100yd) (7)

1	6	CROSSY DON 15 E Weymes 8-12	Dean McKeown 7
2	6403	PETARA 18 J Wainwright 8-12	R Lappin 5
3	00	PRINCE NICHOLAS 87 K Hogg 8-12	F Lynch 2
4	2	STARMAKER 23 (BF) P Chapple-Hyam 8-12	R Havlin (3) 6
5	6	WATCHMAN 10 T Tate 8-12	N Connorton 4
6	6501	FLOWER O'CANNIE 10 (S) M W Easterby 8-11	G Parkin (5) 1
7	001	LINNETSONG 14 (V,D,G) G Oldroyd 8-7	K Hodgson 3

4-11 Starmaker, 7-1 Flower O'Cannie, 10-1 Petara, Linnetsong, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Bell, 8 winners from 30 runners, 26.7%. P Chapple-Hyam, 4 from 16, 25.0%. A Stewart, 4 from 16, 25.0%. W G M Turner, 6 from 32, 18.8%. J Dunlop, 9 from 51, 17.6%. J Spearing, 5 from 29, 17.2%.

JOCKEYS: M Fenton, 12 winners from 58 rides, 20.7%. T Lucas, 4 from 34, 11.8%. Only qualifiers.

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5/1	Zaralaska	16/1	Rockforce
8/1	Dreams End	16/1	Rokeby Bowl
9/1	Cyrian	20/1	Celestial Choir
10/1	Mazurek	25/1	Tessajoe
10/1	Whitechapel	25/1	Wild Rita
12/1	My Learned Friend	33/1	Assured Gamble
12/1	Nabhaan	33/1	Remaadi Sun

Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1,2,3,4. Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 3.20pm. Tattersalls Rule 4 (c) may apply. Non runner – no bet.

LATEST ODDS ON William Hill TV TEXT
• Teletext on CH4 P601/602/603

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*Free bet is a £10 Straight Forecast on the Haydock 3.35pm today. (Please place your bet and make your free bet selection within the same call.)

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ملحق رجال الأعمال

[هكذا من الأصل]

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER

2.25 Misty Point. 2.55 Top Jem. 3.25 Phonetic. 3.55 Halmahera. 4.25 Gold Edge. 4.55 Pleasureland.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT, SOFT IN PLACES — SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

2.25 STARLING MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,807: 7f 16yd) (10 runners)

1 432 BINT SHIHAMA 12 (BF) C Brittain 8-11 — W J O'Connor 2
2 05 BRAGE 4 J Bradley 8-11 — S Drowne 7
3 3- MADE BOLD 284 H Candy 8-11 — A Munro 3
4 40 MISTY POINT 25 I Balding 8-11 — D Griffiths (3) 5
5 06 MY JESS 38 S Knight 8-11 — V Slattery 8
6 2-3 NATIVE RHYTHM 14 (BF) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11 — S Whitworth 9
7 00- DUBBLING 256 H Candy 8-11 — N Adams 10
8 -03 RIVER TWEED 17 J Gosden 8-11 — A McGlone 4
9 4 SHOSHALOZA 18 P R Webber 8-11 — R Perham 6
10 SPIRIT LADY J King 8-11 — D Biggs 1

5-2 River Tweed, 7-2 Native Rhythm, 4-1 Bint Shihama, 9-2 Made Bold, 6-1 Misty Point, 7-1 Shoshaloza, 20-1 Dubbling, 33-1 others.

2.55 W A BLYTH 60TH ANNIVERSARY FILLIES HANDICAP (£3,556: 1m 2f 36yd) (6)

1 5100 CAPILANO PRINCESS 6 (D,F,S) D Haydn Jones 4-10-0 — S Drowne 4
2 6121 TOP JEM 7 (D,F,S) M Ryan 3-9-2 — G Bardwell 5
3 2253 LONELY HEART 25 D Elsworth 3-9-2 — D Griffiths (3) 3
4 4431 SHALATEENO 25 (CD,F,G) B Millman 4-9-2 — A Munro 1
5 4025 MISS RIVIERA ROSE 16 G Wragg 3-8-9 — S Whitworth 2
6 4140 QUEENS STROLLER 14 (V,D,S) R Peacock 6-7-10 — F Norton 6

7-4 Top Jem, 7-2 Shalateeno, 4-1 Miss Riviera Rose, 9-2 Lonely Heart, 8-1 Capilano Princess, 12-1 Queens Stroller.

3.25 ROTHMANS ROYALS NORTH SOUTH CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP
(£4,354: 1m 14yd) (9)

1 -062 KOATHARY 9 (BF,D,F,S) L Cottrell 6-9-12 — D Griffiths (3) 3
2 -000 SERENDIPITY 64 (F) B Millman 4-9-8 — A Munro 2
3 -010 PHONETIC 21 (D,S) G Balding 4-9-6 — S Drowne 1
4 0302 RIGHT TUNE 18 (F) B Hanbury 3-9-1 — J Stack 5
5 0401 NO EXTRAS 6 (D,F,G,S) G L Moore 7-8-13 — S Whitworth 6
6 0-60 ORONTES 40 (G) R Hannon 3-8-9 — W J O'Connor 7
7 4655 WHITE SETTLER 8 (C,F) R Hodges 4-8-9 — F Norton 8
8 0046 FLYING PENNANT 22 (F) J Bradley 4-8-3 — G Bardwell 4
9 0000 ZERMATT 6 (CD,F,S) M Usher 7-7-10 — N Adams 9

3-1 No Extras, 7-2 Koathary, 5-1 Right Tune, 11-2 Phonetic, 7-1 White Settler, 8-1 Orontes, Flying Pennant, 16-1 others.

3.55 E B F MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,038: 6f 16yd) (14)

1 2 BOLD KING 21 J Hills 9-0 — M Henry (3) 9
2 42 HALMAHERA 7 I Balding 9-0 — S Whitworth 13
3 MYSTAGOGUE R Hannon 9-0 — D Biggs 7
4 PETANE J Arnold 9-0 — G Bardwell 2
5 000 RED RISK 16 P Harris 9-0 — F Norton 3
6 RILEY B Charlton 9-0 — W J O'Connor 5
7 5 SANTA COURT 22 R Dickin 9-0 — A McGlone 11
8 63 STRIDING KING 38 M Channon 9-0 — R Perham 1
9 0 TOP MATE 23 A Foster 9-0 — A Munro 4
10 60 WATER FORCE 7 G Balding 9-0 — D Griffiths (3) 8
11 4 DOWNCLOSE DUCHESS 22 M Blanshard 8-9 — N Adams 12
12 GRIMESHOPE S Knight 8-9 — N Varley 6
13 643 TREMOMOW 18 J Bradley 8-9 — V Slattery 10
14 TUI K McAuliffe 8-9 — S Drowne 14

2-1 Halmahera, 4-1 Bold King, 11-2 Riley, 13-2 Striding King, 10-1 others.

4.25 CHAFFINCH MAIDEN HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £2,863: 6f 16yd) (16)

1 2003 GIKO 10 J Poulton 9-7 — S Drowne 9
2 3424 NIGHT EXPRESS 14 B Hanbury 9-7 — J Stack 8
3 3532 MIKE'S DOUBLE 10 Guy Kelleway 9-7 — Angela Gallimore (7) 16
4 0-65 OXBANE 48 H Candy 9-7 — S Whitworth 5
5 5653 BOLD SPRING 19 (V,BF) R Hannon 9-5 — D Biggs 12
6 600 AGIFT 42 R Johnson Houghton 9-5 — N Adams 14
7 -506 BALLADARA 21 R Simpson 9-1 — B Smith (7) 1
8 5-20 E SHARP 12 W Haggas 8-13 — G Bardwell 7
9 -605 PRESENTIMENT 7 M Wane 8-9 — J D Smith (3) 4
10 2335 GOLD EDGE 12 (BF) M Channon 8-8 — R Perham 11
11 -050 ZALOTTO 45 (BF) T Etherington 8-8 — W J O'Connor 6
12 4500 SODA 5 (B) J Spearing 8-3 — N Varley 3
13 -005 HAJAT 24 H Graham 8-2 — A McGlone 13
14 0000 ALPINE MUSIC 7 (B) J Bradley 7-12 — J Fowle (7) 15
15 0023 WELCOME HEIGHTS 9 M Fetherston-Godley 7-10 — F Norton 10
16 0000 SEAMUS 12 C Hill 7-10 — A Polli (5) 2

11-2 Mike's Double, 13-2 Gold Edge, 7-1 Night Express, Bold Spring, 8-1 others.

4.55 SWALLOW HANDICAP (£2,635: 2m 2f) (10)

1 0-66 PLEASURELAND 18 R Cobb 4-9-11 — G Bardwell 2
2 3582 BRIDIE'S PRIDE 4 G Ham 6-8-11 — J Fowle (7) 9
3 0/09 BRUME LA VOILE 8 J Smyth-Osbourne 4-8-10 — W O'Connor 7
4 56/5 CHINA MAIL 26 J Bequell 5-8-5 — N Adams 3
5 2005 CONTRARE 3 M Ryan 4-8-3 — D Biggs 1
6 0432 SAN GLAMORE MELODY 15 (V) J Gosden 3-8-0 — A McGlone 4
7 0502 SPIRAL FLYER 7 M Usher 4-7-10 — J Marshall 6
8 0205 RONQUISTA D'OR 8 G Ham 3-7-10 — N Varley 5
9 /003 TURRILL HOUSE 7 W Musson 5-7-10 — F Norton 10
10 /60/ TRUST DEED 28J (B) S Knight 9-7-10 — A Polli (5) 8

11-4 San Glamore Melody, 5-1 Bridie's Pride, 11-2 Pleasureland, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Chapple-Hyam, 9 winners from 36 runners, 25.0%; J Gosden, 7 from 33, 21.2%; R Charlton, 3 from 19, 15.8%; B Millman, 6 from 40, 15.0%; H Candy, 5 from 34, 14.7%.

JOCKEYS: A Munro, 4 winners from 22 rides, 18.2%; S Whitworth, 9 from 57, 15.8%. Only qualifiers.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

6.30 Final Pride. 7.00 Jazzy Refrain. 7.30 Old Hush Wing. 8.00 Roderick Hudson. 8.30 Irkutsk. 9.00 Vision Of Freedom.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT, HEAVY IN PLACES — SIS
7.15AM INSPECTION

6.30 CHEDDAR HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,936: 2m 4f 110yd) (4 runners)

1 112- FINAL PRIDE 35 (BF,F,G,S) P Bowen 11-11-10 — R Johnson
2 1-51 WALLS COURT 8 (D,F,G) J Birkett 10-10-9 — M Moloney
3 5-23 BITACRACK 8 (D,F,S) J Birkett 10-10-5 — L O'Hara
4 03-P PANDORA'S PRIZE 14 (B,D,S) T Wall 11-10-0 — S Wynne

10-11 Final Pride, 11-4 Walls Court, 3-1 Bitacrack, 16-1 Pandora's Prize.

7.00 STILTON HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,767: 2m) (6)

1 66-3 JAZZY REFRAIN 6 (D,F,G,S) L Wells 7-11-10 — M Richards
2 P04- HALHAM TARN 87 (D,S) H Manners 7-10-13 — A Dowling (7)
3 1-PP CHAN THE MAN 6 (F) D Burchell 6-10-4 — Guy Lewis (5)
4 PP-6 NORTHERN OPTIMIST 17 (D,F,G) B Llewellyn 9-10-4 — A P McCoy
5 322- THATS THE LIFE 35 (D,F,G,S) T George 12-10-2 — R Johnson
6 3F-0 NADIAD 6 (V,D,F,G) D McCain 11-10-0 — V Slattery

5-4 Thats The Life, 4-1 Jazzy Refrain, 6-1 Northern Optimist, 7-1 Halham Tarn, Nadiad, 8-1 Chan The Man.

7.30 L A METALS 10TH ANNIVERSARY MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,005: 3m 1f) (9)

1 P-0P BUNNY HARE 17 J Bates 9-11-5 — L O'Hara
2 60-2 CROCKNAMOHILL 17 K Bridgwater 6-11-5 — A P McCoy
3 5-25 ELITE GOVERNOR 7 (F,G) N Lampard 8-11-5 — R Dunwoody
4 2R0- MINTULYAR 42 W Kemp 5-11-5 — A S Smith
5 R14- PRINCE ITSU 63P (F) J Neville 9-11-5 — J Culloty
6 45-P RUSTIC FLIGHT 17 L Waring 10-11-5 — M Griffiths (7)
7 4- OLD HUSH WING 10F P Haslam 4-11-1 — M Foster
8 005- PHONE THE PIPELINE 34 M Pipe 4-11-1 — C Maude
9 0 FLICKERING LIGHT 22 P Beaumont 6-11-0 — R Supple

5-4 Old Hush Wing, 9-2 Elite Governor, 5-1 Phone The Pipeline, 8-1 others.

8.00 GOLIATH WINDOWS NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,343: 2m) (4)

1 43-2 GLOBAL DANCER 6 L Wells 6-10-12 — A Maguire
2 4- RODERICK HUDSON 219 J Toller 5-10-12 — R Dunwoody
3 P/ SECOND CONTRACT 807 W Kemp 7-10-12 — S McDougall
4 /P0- FAME AND FANTASY 36 (D,F) N Chance 6-10-7 — R Johnson

4-7 Global Dancer, 15-8 Roderick Hudson, 14-1 Fame And Fantasy, 16-1 Second Contract.

8.30 DOUBLE GLOUCESTER SELLING HURDLE
(£2,093: 2m) (7)

1 6/P/ ARABOYBILL 32F J Neville 6-10-10 — J Culloty
2 55-6 BATTLESHIP BRUCE 5F (B) P Bowen 5-10-10 — R Johnson
3 136/ IRKUTSK 853 (F,S) M Pipe 6-10-10 — C Maude
4 2-22 MASTER SHOWMAN 7 D Wintle 6-10-10 — W Marston
5 050- TIMELY EXAMPLE 48F B Cambidge 6-10-10 — Gary Lyons
6 TOP SCHOLAR D McCain 5-10-5 — T Jenks
7 MAGIC MELODY 5F J Spearing 4-10-2 — T J Murphy

6-4 Irkutsk, 5-2 Battleship Bruce, Master Showman, 8-1 Araboybill, 9-1 others.

9.00 RED LEICESTER HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,040: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

1 0-61 VISION OF FREEDOM 6 (D,F,G) P Bowen 9-11-10 — L Cummins (5)
2 /0-P TOUCH SILVER 8 (G) H Manners 7-11-8 — A Dowling (7)
3 140/ REACH FOR GLORY 418 (D,F,G) W G M Turner 8-11-8 — R Dunwoody
4 -411 HONEYBED WOOD 7 (D,F,G,S) M Sheppard 9-11-0 — A Maguire
5 13-3 FENIAN COURT 17 (F) P Evans 6-10-9 — A P McCoy
6 33-0 MISS SOUTER 17 (V,F,S) H Howe 8-10-0 — B Powell
7 553- SCRIPT 52 (F,S) J Jenkins 6-10-0 — W Marston

2-1 Honeybed Wood, 100-30 Vision Of Freedom, 4-1 Fenian Court, 11-2 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 3 winners from 6 runners, 50.0%. Only qualifier.

JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody, 4 winners from 15 rides, 26.7%. Only qualifier.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Beverley: 3.30 Blue Lamp. Carlisle 8.10 Kalousion. Chepstow: 2.55 Queens Stroller. 4.25 Alpine Music. 4.55 San Glamore Melody. Haydock Park: 2.35 Burundi. 3.05 Maid Of Camelot. 5.20 Granny's Pet. Nottingham: 7.50 Russian Romeo. 8.20 Raise A Prince. 9.20 Linden's Lad. Sandown Park: 3.20 Astrac.

CARLISLE

THUNDERER

6.40 Risky Girl. 7.10 Winter Scout. 7.40 Euro Sceptic. 8.10 Needwood Nutkin. 8.40 Mungo Park. 9.10 Amron.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT — SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.40 GILSLAND NOVICE AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,752: 5f 207yd) (13 runners)

1 415 ABERKEEN 16 (D,F) M Dods 9-2 — Dale Gibson 13
2 0 COOL SECRET 68 J Mulholland 8-12 — D Sweeney (5) 11
3 FASHION VICTIM T Caldwell 8-12 — Dean McKeown 5
4 2160 HEAVENLY ABSTONE 17 (V,F,S) P Evans 8-12 — J F Egan 2
5 1 RISKY GIRL 19 (D,G) M Heaton-Ellis 8-9 — J Lowe 4
6 005 LORD OF LOVE 12 T Easterby 8-5 — J Carroll 9
7 SAINT ALBERT P Kelleway 8-5 — R Price 12
8 02 CELTIC COMFORT 9 P Haslam 8-5 — L Charnock 6
9 0 GLOBE RACER 15 J J O'Neill 8-5 — T E Durcan (5) 7
10 1 PIGEON 35 (D,F) D Barker 8-2 — T Williams 3
11 0 DOUGS DREAM 10 Mrs A Swinbank 8-0 — D Wright 1
12 PETITE TACHE N Chamberlain 8-0 — K Sked (5) 8
13 6 SEMI CIRCLE 18 T Easterby 8-0 — Darren Moffatt (3) 10

5-2 Risky Girl, 5-1 Aberkeen, 11-2 Saint Albert, 13-2 Pigeon, 10-1 others.

7.10 MACMILLAN NURSES CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,905: 6f 206yd) (8)

1 1-60 MOVE WITH EDES 39 (CD,F) W G M Turner 5-9-8 — D Sweeney (5) 2
2 THE VALE 1614 R McKellar 5-9-8 — J Lowe 5
3 0511 WINTER SCOUT 10 (CD,F,G,S) R Fahey 9-9-8 — R Winston (7) 8
4 NO PROBLEM JAC 73 J J O'Neill 4-9-7 — J Carroll 4
5 4040 SURF CITY 24 W Haigh 4-9-2 — L Charnock 3
6 0601 BOLLERO 4 (G,S) J Berry 3-8-9 — C Lowther (7) 1
7 000- CHALICE 275 (G) Mrs A Swinbank 4-8-3 — D Wright 6
8 6640 ITALIAN SYMPHONY 19 P Evans 3-8-8 — J F Egan 7

5-4 Winter Scout, 7-2 Move With Edes, 6-1 Surf City, 7-1 Chalice, 8-1 Bollero, 12-1 No Problem Jac, 16-1 Italian Symphony, 25-1 The Vale.

7.40 TINDALE HANDICAP (£3,074: 7f 214yd) (18)

1 0063 NAUGHTY PISTOL 18 (B,F) P Evans 5-9-10 — J F Egan 5
2 9315 BOWCLIFFE 10 (D,F,G) E Alston 6-9-9 — J Fortune 9
3 1060 AGENT 6 J Eyre 4-9-7 — D Pears (3) 13
4 5-06 SHE'S SIMPLY GREAT 26 J J O'Neill 4-9-4 — T E Durcan (5) 6
5 40-0 CHARISSE DANCER 35 C Thornton 4-9-3 — Dean McKeown 3
6 00-0 RACING BRENDA 16 (D,F) B Morgan 6-9-3 — J Carroll 18
7 3051 SANDBLASTER 5 (D,S) J Eyre 4-9-3 (6ex) — D Wright 11
8 3643 SING AND DANCE 8 E Weymes 4-9-1 — Dale Gibson 1
9 5434 EURO SCEPTIC 10 (B,BF,D,F,G) T Easterby 5-8-13 — R Winston (7) 15
10 0240 SNOWY MANTLE 14 (BF) J Bethell 4-8-11 — P Fessey (3) 16
11 0-30 PETIT FLORA 43 G Holmes 5-8-9 — G Parkin (5) 10
12 -000 MYSTIC TIMES 12 (F) B Mactaggart 4-8-2 — K Sked (5) 17
13 0000 BOUT 14 R McKellar 3-7-12 — J Lowe 12
14 0-00 HIO NOD 58 M Camacho 3-7-12 — T Williams 8
15 063 MARZOCCO 9 (D,F) T Cuthbert 9-7-11 — J Bramhill 4
16 000 BAKATI 40 M Camacho 3-7-10 — L Charnock 14
17 0045 SILENT SYSTEM 5 D Chapman 4-7-10 — P Bradley (7) 2
18 0030 NUKUD 17 (V) G Oldroyd 5-7-10 — D Mernagh (7) 7

3-1 Euro Sceptic, 13-2 Sandblaster, 7-1 Bowcliffe, 8-1 Naughty Pistol, Sing And Dance, Snowy Mantle, 10-1 She's Simply Great, 14-1 others.

8.10 TALKIN TARN HANDICAP (£2,931: 1m 4f) (12)

1 -000 OUT ON A PROMISE 17 (F) L Lungo 5-10-0 — Dale Gibson 6
2 500 SABU 14 J Charlton 5-9-13 — J Carroll 3
3 0033 DAIRA 18 (D,G) J Bethell 4-9-8 — P Fessey (3) 11
4 4435 SUGA HAWK 9 (S) E Alston 5-9-6 — J F Egan 9
5 4201 SHEROY 10 (CD,F,G) S Kettlewell 5-9-5 — J Fortune 4
6 0-20 INDONESIAN 16 (F) P Calver 5-8-13 — Darren Moffatt (3) 10
7 6950 LORD HASTIE 6 (B,D,F,S) C Thornton 9-8-5 — Dean McKeown 1
8 5506 JUBRAN 8 (F,G) J Eyre 11-8-3 — D Wright 5
9 3025 MAY KING MAYHEM 3 Mrs A King 4-7-13 — T Williams 12
10 /160 SILVER PEARL 14 (D,S) Mrs A Naughton 6-7-12 — J Lowe 2
11 4533 NEEDWOOD NUTKIN 17 B Morgan 4-7-10 — L Charnock 8
12 -600 KALOUSION 10 (B) T Etherington 3-7-10 — J Bramhill 7

9-4 Sheroy, 3-1 Daira, 7-1 Suga Hawk, 8-1 May King Mayhem, 10-1 Silver Pearl, 12-1 Lord Hastie, Needwood Nutkin, 14-1 others.

8.40 BRAMPTON HANDICAP (£3,087: 5f) (8)

1 3300 JUST BOB 21 (CD,F,G,S) S Kettlewell 8-10-0 — Jenny Benson (7) 2
2 0043 ULTRA BEET 10 (V,D,F) P Haslam 5-9-5 — P Goode (7) 1
3 4222 STOLEN KISS 10 (B,BF,D,F,S) M W Easterby 5-9-5 — Dale Gibson 3
4 6053 TROPICAL BEACH 4 (B,D,F,G,S) J Berry 4-9-0 — T E Durcan (5) 6
5 0013 MUNGO PARK 18 (BF,CD,F) Mrs J Ramsden 3-8-11 — J Fortune 8
6 0502 BOLD BRIEF 10 (D,F) D Smith 3-8-5 — C Lowther (7) 5
7 3006 IMPISH 19 (D,S) T Etherington 3-8-4 — L Charnock 4
8 300- HAMILTON GOLD 278 M Meagher 4-8-3 — J Carroll 7

11-4 Mungo Park, 4-1 Bold Brief, 9-2 Stolen Kiss, 5-1 Tropical Beach, 7-1 Ultra Beet, Impish, 8-1 Just Bob, 14-1 Hamilton Gold.

9.10 GELTSDALE LIMITED STAKES
(£2,486: 5f 207yd) (6)

1 6202 AMRON 36 (CD,F,G,S) J Berry 10-9-5 — T E Durcan (5) 4
2 0800 ATTARIKH 7 (B) Mrs A King 4-9-2 — J Fortune 1
3 0011 COURT EXPRESS 10 (CD,F) T Etherington 3-9-2 — J Carroll 6
4 0001 WATCH THE FIRE 5 (D,F,S) J Banks 4-9-2 — C Lowther (7) 2
5 0104 CAIRN DHU 38 (D,G) D Barker 3-8-13 — T Williams 5
6 0060 WAGGA MOON 2 J J O'Neill 3-8-10 — L Charnock 3

15-8 Court Express, 2-1 Amron, 11-4 Watch The Fire, 8-1 Cairn Dhu, 14-1 Wagga Moon, 28-1 Attarikh.

NOTTINGHAM

THUNDERER

6.50 Arif. 7.20 Constant Attention. 7.50 Bandbox. 8.20 Tellion. 8.50 Secret Ballot. 9.20 Around Fore Alliss.

GOING: SOFT, HEAVY IN PLACES — SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

6.50 FAMILY NIGHT SELLING HANDICAP
(£1,985: 1m 6f 15yd) (10 runners)

1 0045 WESLEY'S LAD 7 (BF) [illegible] 3-9-10 — S Drowne 5
2 0624 LUCY TUFTY 7 (S) J Pearce 6-9-8 — C Teague (3) 10
3 -612 ARIF 2 (S) B Curley 5-9-6 — J Fanning 4
4 30- JUNCTION TWENTYTWO 73 (F) C Wade 7-9-0 — M Fenton 7
5 005- WINGED GREETING 221 (B) J O'Reilly 5-8-13 — J O'Reilly 6
6 0 30 [illegible] 12 J Fanshawe 6-8-12 — T Sprake 9
7 000 LA SPAGNA 8 M Usher 6-8-11 — D R McCabe 2
8 0000 BALLET DE COUR 17 (V) T Etherington 4-8-9 — N Carlisle 3
9 -030 CLUB ELITE 22 (V) Mrs A Swinbank 5-8-7 — J Quinn 8
10 0P0 DRAMATIC PASS 21 J M Chapman 8-5-4 — S Carson (7) 1

5-2 Arif, 4-1 Lucy Tufty, 9-2 Wesley's Lad, 6-1 Ballet de Cour, 10-1 Junction Twentytwo, Club Elite, 12-1 Winged Greeting, La Spagna, 14-1 others.

7.20 FRIAR TUCK MAIDEN AUCTION FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,486: 6f 15yd) (7)

1 CONSTANT ATTENTION P Cole 8-8 — T Quinn 6
2 GENERAL KLAIRE B McMahon 8-4 — L Newton 5
3 ZENA [illegible] 8-4 — R Ffrench (5) 4
4 CHAMELI Mrs L Stubbs 8-0 — T Sprake 2
5 [illegible] Mrs N Macauley 8-0 — R Lappin 3
6 60 MAY 40 M Brittain 8-0 — N Carlisle 1
7 0 SILVER STRAND 23 [illegible] 8-0 — G Carter 7

5-4 Silver Strand, 6-4 Constant Attention, 7-1 Zena, 12-1 General Klaire, 20-1 May, 25-1 [illegible], 33-1 Chameli.

7.50 SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,277: 5f 13yd) (8)

1 0 ALLATON 12 Mrs P Sly 9-0 — N Carlisle 1
2 05 BANDBOX 33 S Mellor 9-0 — J Quinn 6
3 6000 RUSSIAN ROMEO 7 (V) B McMahon 9-0 — L Newton 2
4 0 WELCOME SUNSET 58 J Wharton 9-0 — R Ffrench (5) 4
5 50 ZEPPO 12 M Heaton-Ellis 9-0 — S Drowne 8
6 FACSIMILE [illegible] 8-9 — K Fallon 7
7 MOUNTAIN MAGIC D French Davis 8-9 — T Quinn 5
8 0 TILBURG 15 Mrs N Macauley 8-9 — M Fenton 3

7-4 Zeppo, 11-4 Bandbox, 4-1 Facsimile, 8-1 Welcome Sunset, 10-1 Russian Romeo, 14-1 Mountain Magic, 20-1 Allaton, Tilburg.

8.20 NOTTINGHAM EVENING POST MAIDEN HANDICAP (£3,634: 1m 1f 213yd) (14)

1 -030 RAISE A PRINCE 15 (V) [illegible] 4-10-0 — M Henry (3) 14
2 2353 NIGHT MIRAGE 14 M Johnston 3-9-2 — J Fanning 10
3 -033 JALB 21 A Stewart 3-9-2 — S Whitworth 5
4 4422 TELLION 17 [illegible] 3-9-2 — T Sprake 6
5 -643 NORTHERN TOUCH 19 S C Williams 3-9-2 — D Williams (7) 7
6 3522 JEAN PIERRE 11 J Pearce 4-8-9 — K Fallon 11
7 00 3 YOUNG DALESMAN 17 A Streeter 4-8-9 — L Newton 13
8 0-00 SELECT STAR 20 [illegible] 3-8-8 — S Drowne 3
9 422 PERLETHORPE 49 M Bell 3-8-8 — M Fenton 4
10 0554 KRABLOONIK 17 (BF) M Prescott 3-8-7 — G Duffield 8
11 53-0 PRAIRIE MINSTREL 21 R Dickin 3-8-6 — A Culhane 2
12 6022 ROBBO 8 (B) C Thornton 3-8-5 — S Sanders 12
13 50-5 SLIGHTLY SPECIAL 63 D Thom 5-7-10 — J Quinn 9
14 9034 PETULA BOY 5 S Bowring 3-7-10 — R Ffrench (5) 1

11-4 Krabloonik, 11-2 Jean Pierre, 13-2 Tellion, 7-1 Night Mirage, 8-1 Jalb, Robbo, 10-1 Raise A Prince, Select Star, 12-1 others.

8.50 FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY LIMITED STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,277: 1m 1f 213yd) (9)

1 2003 MUTAHADETH 16 D Shaw 9-2 — J Fanning 9
2 -230 DON'T WORRY MIKE 56 F Lee 9-0 — A Culhane 7
3 4402 GOLD CLIPPER 14 M Ryan 9-0 — M Baird (3) 1
4 0-62 SECRET BALLOT 7 K Mahdi 9-0 — D O'Donohoe (3) 3
5 550 TEZAAB 42 B Hanbury 9-0 — J Stack 8
6 F0-6 MISS ALICE 14 C Smith 8-11 — J Tate 6
7 6342 POKER PRINCESS 7 M Bell 8-11 — R Mullen (5) 4
8 000 SILVERY 19 J Toller 8-11 — S Sanders 2
9 532 SUN FAIRY 19 (BF) J Glover 8-11 — G Carter 5

7-2 Poker Princess, 4-1 Sun Fairy, 9-2 Gold Clipper, Secret Ballot, 6-1 Mutahadeth, Tezaab, 7-1 Don't Worry Mike, 33-1 others.

9.20 BBC RADIO NOTTINGHAM HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,564: 1m 54yd) (13)

1 4061 SAFFRON ROSE 17 (CD,G) M Blanshard 9-7 — J Quinn 12
2 4051 AROUND FORE ALLISS 14 (D) T Mills 9-2 — K Fallon 8
3 3425 FAYM 29 (BF) J Wharton 9-1 — R Ffrench (5) 2
4 2500 THE NEGOTIATOR 17 M Heaton-Ellis 9-0 — S Drowne 5
5 -000 FLOTILLA 17 S Mellor 8-13 — R Perham 10
6 050- STAR TURN 257 M Bell 8-11 — M Fenton 13
7 060- TWO BILLS 292 A Streeter 8-9 — T Sprake 9
8 0364 WELCOME HOME 10 P Dalton 8-9 — S Sanders 7
9 0P00 IMPERIAL OR METRIC 19 (D,F) R Fahey 8-7 — A Culhane 4
10 0005 LINDEN'S LAD 19 (V) J Jenkins 8-1 — G Carter 3
11 600 SUPERAPPAROS 68 S Bowring 7-10 — R Mullen (5) 1
12 0000 JOYFUL JOY 12 B Baugh 7-10 — Iona Wands (5) 6
13 -000 REDSPET 38 S Bowring 7-10 — F Boyle (7) 11

3-1 Saffron Rose, 5-1 Welcome Home, 6-1 Around Fore Alliss, 7-1 Linden's Lad, 8-1 Faym, Star Turn, 10-1 The Negotiator, Imperial Or Metric, 14-1 others.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Sandown Park

Going: good to soft (good in places)

2.00 (5f 6yd) 1, **SALLY GREEN** (L Dettori, 2-1 fav); 2, **Singforyoursupper** (G Bardwell, 13-2); 3, **Nopalea** (Pat Eddery, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 9 Hype Energy (4th), 12 Whizz Kid, 16 Gunners Glory (6th), *Royal Orchid*, 33 Dancing Mystery (5th), M T Vessel, 50 Durable George. 10 ran. 1½l, 3½l, 1½l, shd, ½l. C Wall at Newmarket. Tote: £2.10; £1.30, £1.60, £1.90. DF: £6.40. Trio: £4.60. CSF: £12.43. Tricast: £29.93.

2.35 (7f 16yd) 1, **MUHTATHIR** (R Hills, 1-2 fav); 2, **Classic Manoeuvre** (Pat Eddery, 15-8); 3, **Celestial Bay** (B Doyle, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 100 Erika's Young Man (4th). 4 ran. ¾l, 5l, 30l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £1.50. DF: £1.10. CSF: £1.45.

3.10 (1m 3f 91yd) 1, **MAGIC COMBINATION** (W Ryan, 11-2); 2, **Premier Generation** (D Holland, 11-2); 3, **Typhoon Eight** (G Carter, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Hawker Hunter (5th), 4 *Temptress*, 10 Dramatic Moment (6th), Rock The Barney (4th), Royal Seaton. 8 ran. NR: Sofyaan. Nk, 2l, 1½l, 2, ¾l, sh hd. B Curley at Newmarket. Tote: £9.90; £2.30, £1.50, £2.10. DF: £18.40. Trio: £121.00. CSF: £36.21. Tricast: £166.16.

3.40 (5f 6yd) 1, **BODYGUARD** (T Quinn, 6-5); 2, Daunting Lady (Evens fav); 3, Aungny (7-1). 3 ran. Nk, 5l. P Cole at Whatcombe. Tote: £1.80. DF: £1.40. CSF: £2.54.

4.10 (1m 14yd) 1, **RENATA'S PRINCE** (L Dettori, 5-1); 2, **Therhea** (B Doyle, 11-8 fav); 3, **Kailey Senor** (R Price, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Baba Au Rhum (4th), 9 *Fionn de Cool* (6th), 10 Comanche Companion, Zidac (5th), 50 Coastguards Hero. 8 ran. 1¾l, 3½l, ½l, 1, ¾l, ¾l. K Burke at Wantage. Tote: £4.10; £1.30, £1.20, £3.00. DF: £4.00. CSF: £10.62. Tricast: £68.54. After a stewards' inquiry, the result stood.

4.40 (1m 6f) 1, **BOOK AT BEDTIME** (L Dettori, 1-6 fav); 2, **Vrennan** (Pat Eddery, 8-1); 3, **Padauk** (T Quinn, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 20 Final Stage (4th), 50 Veuve Clicquot (5th). 5 ran. 7l, 11l, 3l, 2½l. C Cyzer at Horsham. Tote: £1.20; £1.10, £1.90. DF: £1.70. CSF: £2.00.

Placepot: £25.70.
Quadpot: £19.90.

3.25 (7f) 1, **LORD SMITH** (Martin Dwyer, 11-8 fav); 2, *Petaling* (M Tebbutt, 10-1); 3, **Michelee** (J F Egan, 7-4). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Figawin (5th), 33 Floral Park (4th). 5 ran. NR: Hudson. 4l, 6l, 1¾l, 1½l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £3.80. DF: £12.60. CSF: £13.94.

3.55 (1m 6f 194yd) 1, **MANILENO** (Martin Dwyer, Evens fav); 2, **Chabrol** (S Saunders, 7-1); 3, **Tawafek** (J Reid, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Two Socks (4th), 8 Slapy Dam (5th), 16 Durham (6th). 6 ran. 5l, 2l, 15l, 22l, 4l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £1.80; £1.60, £2.60. DF: £5.30. CSF: £7.53.

4.25 (6f) 1, **ALWAYS ON MY MIND** (S Sanders, 3-1); 2, **Awassi** (D O'Donohoe, 16-1); 3, **Savona** (M Hills, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Bacchus (4th), 9-2 Flourishing Way, 9 *Catria*, Eliza, 14 Hanan (6th), 25 Ballour Lady (5th), Beaucatcher, 33 Misconduct, 66 Calandrella, Silent Symphony. 13 ran. 4l, 3l, 2l, 4l, 1l. P Makin at Ogbourne Maisey. Tote: £3.60; £1.60, £3.90, £2.80. DF: £52.20. Trio: £161.10. CSF: £47.04.

4.55 (1m) 1, **SPECULATOR** (M Hills, 3-1 fav); 2, **Dawam Allail** (S Sanders, 7-1); 3, **Kafil** (T Sprake, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 4 Sahara River (4th), 7 Balerena, 8 Crown *Of Thorns* (5th), 16 Desert Warrior (6th), 20 Classic Form, Cold Lazarus, Massyar Seventeen, 33 Magic Lahr, 50 Kocovo, Pocket The Jester, 66 Catherston Lucky Charcol, *Milton Abbot*, Minster Star. 17 ran. NR: Flying Flip. 2½l, 5l, 3l, 4l, 2l. W Haggas at Newmarket. Tote: £3.50; £2.00, £1.60, £2.40. DF: £5.90. Trio: £10.00. CSF: £22.15.

Jackpot: Not won (pool of £17,583.03 carried forward to Sandown today).
Placepot: £74.60. **Quadpot:** £8.70.

Warwick

Going: soft

2.15 (1m 2f 169yd) 1, **COME TOGETHER** (S Whitworth, 33-1); 2, **Swing West** (C Rutter, 8-1); 3, **Mowjood** (J Reid, 3-1 fav); 4, **Isis Honda** (W J O'Connor, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 6 Tribal Moon (5th), 7 Expialidocious, Little Miss Rocker, 16 Kustom Kit Klassic, 20 Chocolate Ice, Hever Golf Charmer, Straffan Gold, Yuppy Girl, 25 Banneret, So Keen (6th), 33 Baaheth, Running Free, 50 Indian Nectar, 66 Foreign Judgement, Moelina, Such Presence. 20 ran. 2½l, shd, 1½l, 3l, 4l. D Arbuthnot at Compton. Tote: £35.00; £6.30, £3.50, £1.70, £1.30. DF: £295.20. Trio: Not won (pool of £813.52 carried forward to Sandown 4.40 today). CSF: £245.49. Tricast: £968.34.

2.50 (1m) 1, **QUEEN OF SHANNON** (R Studholme, 7-1); 2, **Moneghetti** (R Ffrench, 14-1); 3, **My Handsome Prince** (N Carlisle, 20-1); 4, **Maurangi** (M *Doering*, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 6-1 fav Katie Komaite, 7 Gold Lance, 8 Sandmoor Denim, 10 Best Kept Secret, 11 Arcatura, 12 Charlton Imp, 14 Scottish Park, 16 Safa Dancer, Shanghai Lil, 20 Commin' Up, David James' Girl, Eastleigh, Foolish Flutter (6th), 25 Spirit Of Sport (fell), 33 Sweet Seventeen (5th), 50 Little Pilgrim. 20 ran. 5l, 2½l, 1½l, nk, 2l. A Carroll at Worcester. Tote: £9.40; £2.50, £4.40, £5.80, £2.40. DF: £61.70. Trio: £867.40. CSF: £93.69. Tricast: £1,788.84.

Hever Golf Rose back on travels for repeat win

JOE NAUGHTON, the Epsom trainer, sends his smart filly Hever Golf Rose on her travels again to bid for a second win in the group three Holsten Trophy at Hamburg today. Cash Asmussen's mount, successful in France and Sweden already this term, may have most to fear from Waky Nao, last year's winner, and Macanal.

At the same track tomorrow, two *British runners* tackle the German Derby. Frankie Dettori rides Pilsudski's half-brother Conon Falls (trained by John Gosden) and Richard Quinn partners Yorkshire (Paul Cole) in the 1½-mile race. John Oxx, the Irish trainer, sends Zafarabad over.

In France today, Brian Meehan runs Cortachy Castle (*Michael Tebbutt*) and Rae Guest Ouaisne (Darryll Holland) in the group three Prix du Bois at Deauville, France's first group race of the season for juveniles.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

CARLISLE: Trainers: W Haigh, 3 winners from 10 runners, 30.0%; S Kettlewell, 4 from 14, 28.6%; Mrs J Ramsden, 14 from 58, 24.1%; E Weymes, 5 from 22, 22.7%; R Fahey, 4 from 18, 22.2%. Jockeys: R Winston, 3 winners from 8 rides, 37.5%; D Pears, 7 from 32, 21.9%; D Wright, 3 from 20, 15.0%; J Carroll, 13 from 107, 12.1%; J Fortune, 12 from 101, 11.9%.

NOTTINGHAM: Trainers: M Prescott, 10 winners from 35 runners, 28.6%; J Fanshawe, 7 from 46, 15.2%; B Hills, 7 from 46, 15.2%; J Hills, 6 from 43, 14.0%; A Stewart, 4 from 29, 13.8%. Jockeys: K Fallon, 20 winners from 136 rides, 14.7%; T Quinn, 13 from 90, 14.4%; T Sprake, 16 from 111, 14.4%; G Duffield, 16 from 116, 13.8%; R Ffrench, 3 from 23, 13.0%.

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER — THE TIMES

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[illegible] Britain this summer with [illegible] 50 per cent off normal prices. You can choose from more than 16 activities anytime before September 30, 1997, subject to availability. Details will appear in *The Times* daily until July 12. Collect four tokens, attach them to a voucher and book your visit in advance with the relevant company. When you make your payment forward your voucher and tokens to validate your discount. Readers are responsible for taking out their own holiday and accident insurance cover.

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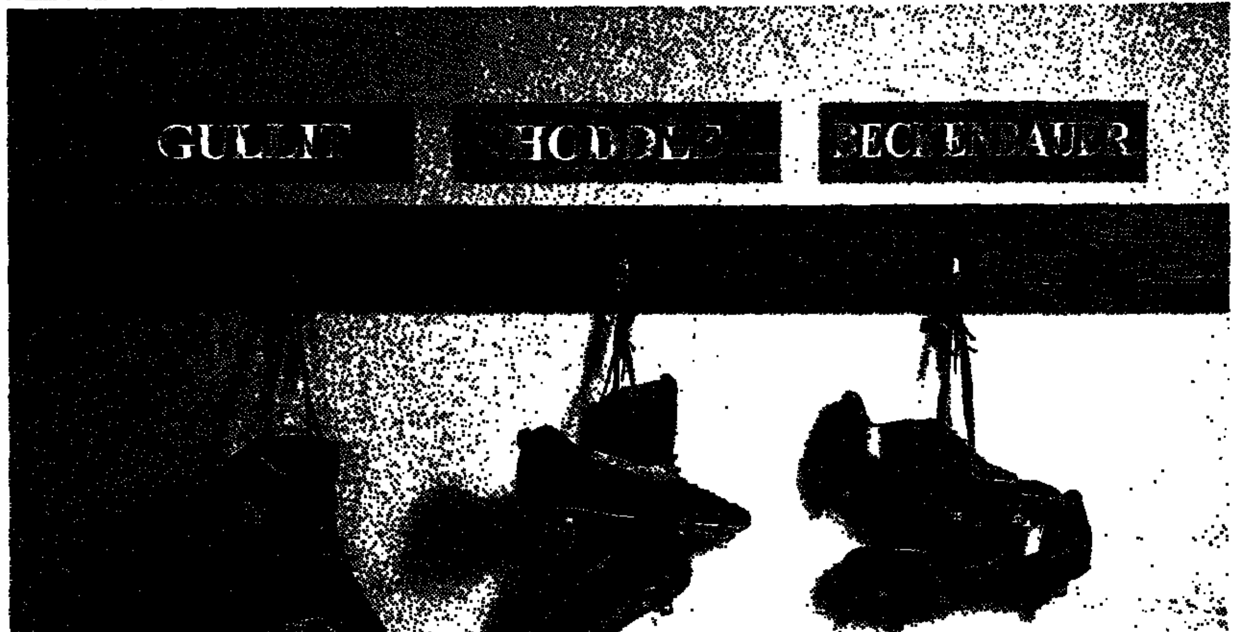
TOKEN

ON MONDAY: MOTOR RACING AND FREE AQUA DIVING

CHANGING TIMES



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TENNIS

Novotna has heart set on winning return

BY JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE teenager named after a Wimbledon legend today embarks on a preordained mission to forge a legend of her own. Martina Hingis, imbibed on the exploits of Martina Navratilova, plays her first Wimbledon singles final against Jana Novotna, a beaten finalist in heart-rending circumstances four years ago. The urgency of youth is, thus, pitted against the clamour of sentiment.

Novotna will corner the affections of the Centre Court gallery after her defeat by Steffi Graf in 1993. If the tears she spilt on the Duchess of Kent's shoulder make an endearing sporting image, they have played too long on Novotna's brittle emotions. She held a point for a 5-1 lead in the third set before capitulating in spectacular fashion.

Nothing can better cleanse her mind than victory in the same arena. The prospect is encouraging. Novotna, 28, has been liberated by the absence of the injured Graf — who has won all five of their matches at Wimbledon. She approaches the match in excellent fettle, having beaten Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, twice a finalist, in straight sets in the last four. Novotna's grass-court game is the perfect antidote to Hingis's baseline style, which may be compromised by the uneven bounce on a rutted Centre Court.

Nevertheless, the four-year-old ghost refuses to submit. Novotna, the No 3 seed, said: "I have talked about it a lot. In 1993, I had to prove to myself and everybody else that I was a good player. I wanted it too much and I was never able to play my best tennis. Over the years, my outlook has changed. Tennis is not everything, there is a life outside."

She was alluding to the illness of her father, who recently relapsed into a serious illness that he suffered from two years ago. Knowing that her parents are to watch the match on television, in the Czech Republic, will test Novotna's assertion that she has learnt to relax. She pulled out of the women's doubles tournament yesterday, citing a strain in her upper thigh that is not expected to trouble her today.

By contrast to Hingis, who has yet to play a third set here, Novotna has twice been taken the distance — by Elena Likhovtseva and Mary Joe Fernandez. Her sharing of the Eastbourne title with Sánchez Vicario means that she is unbeaten in three weeks' of grass-court tennis. Her confidence could hardly be higher.

It will need to be against Hingis, the world No 1 and similarly seeded here. Unlike Novotna, the teenager, who is still only 16, already holds a grand-slam title, having triumphed in the Australian Open in January.

She has lost just once this year, to Iva Majoli, of Croatia, in the final of the French Open, and she holds a 3-2 advantage in previous matches with Novotna, winning most recently in March at the Lipton championships in Florida.

Hingis will start the final today as favourite, although Navratilova, the winner of nine Wimbledon singles titles, will be shocked to learn of her disdain for the place — particularly Centre Court, which Navratilova made her second home.

"I hate this court," Hingis said. "I hate grass, because you have to think differently on the surface. You have to put the first serve in more often." Of Navratilova's outstanding record here, Hingis said: "She just loved the Wimbledon tournament. Hopefully I, too, will love it one day."

Hingis has yet to face a seeded player on her way to the final and her inexperience and dislike of grass may tug at her confidence. If Novotna can exploit the lack of pace on Hingis's second service, the Centre Court crowd may join her in this time shedding tears of joy.

COVERAGE: Television: Today: BBC1: Grandstand, from 1.40pm. BBC2: Live, from 1.25pm (with cricket). Tomorrow: BBC1: Live, from 1.30pm. BBC2: Sunday Grandstand, from 6.0pm. Radio: BBC Radio 5 Live: Today: Live, from 1.0pm (with rugby). Tomorrow: Live, from 1.0pm (with cycling, cricket, golf)
WEATHER: Mostly dry and sunny

GARY M PRIOR / ALLSPORT

Novotna will have the crowd's support today and her grass-court game is the perfect foil for Hingis's baseline style

Big girls reward lonely vigil

LYNNE TRUSS

Kicking & Screaming

Ah, the law of diminishing returns. I knew it would come in handy one day. Out on No 18 Court, where that fascinating prospect of a mixed doubles third-round match (Sapsford and Siddall v Broad and de Swardt) was rained off twice yesterday afternoon, the initially small crowd of 32 returned in smaller and smaller (diminishing) numbers until there was actually nobody at all. First there were 32, then 11, and then just me, sitting on a damp, tip-up seat with my rain-hood on, pretending to enjoy a choc ice and attempting to hail passers-by ("Come on in, you'll love it!") with very little hope of success.

The weather was at its most deeply irritating yesterday. Play in this match started . . . and then it stopped, with only two points played. Covers went on, then came off again, then went on again with only a knock-up intervening. Why do they still bother with a knock-up when clouds are patently gathering overhead? Why don't they say "Let's skip this bit and press on?" I will never understand people who don't cut corners in an emergency.

But then, that's what it's like here generally. The most difficult thing about the waiting at Wimbledon is that although the covers go on with commendable lightning speed, it takes hours to reverse the process. They whip away the chairs and net like demons, but replace them in a casual, gone-fishing, where's-the-fire kind of way, as if the word "urgency" had never been invented.

Patience is a virtue, of course, but only people who have spent prolonged periods in laid-back countries such as Fiji or Samoa can cope with this strange and wilful slow-coaching. For people like myself, who prefer to get a move on, the result of all the gritted teeth is molars ground to a fine dust.

Since, for a considerable period, the two points on Neil Broad's service looked to be the only ones on offer in this match, I pondered them long and hard and through several cups of tea. What would happen after 15-all? Gosh, it could go to 30-15, but that would be to overlook the even more thrilling possibility of 15-30. Worth hanging about then. Moreover, was it possible to extrapolate an entire match from just two points, the way zoologists reconstruct dinosaurs from a single toenail? While I was considering this option, the linesmen returned to the court for the second time, to the smatteringest of smatterings. It's odd how just one person clapping always sounds sarcastic, no matter how enthusiastic she really is.

Once they got going, these four proceeded predictably. Broad and de Swardt broke Shirli-Ann Siddall's service in the twelfth game to win the first set 7-5; in the second set, they finished them off 6-3. Some rather good rallying displays were appreciated by the slowly swelling crowd — it's those volleying bits that always give the crowds a laugh, isn't it? — and, just to add a note of controversy, Neil ("British") Broad contested a line-call with "Ya hiff ta be kiddink me!", showing off his adoptive accent to full effect.

Mixed doubles, it has to be said, is the final you watch on the telly when the big, heavy singles stuff is all done. It's synonymous with lengthening shadows and a big silly smile on your face. If memory serves, you usually get a ladies champion partnering some biddable muscular unseeded chap, together beating a couple of unknowns, with a good time had by all. By that stage in the tournament, mixed doubles is a way of returning tennis to the status of fun.

Third-round stuff is considerably more serious and dampening to the spirits, but it was good to see the big girls (who simply don't come much bigger) holding their own, since my only experience as a participant in mixed doubles (at age 15) was being told to stand at the net without moving, while the chap dashed madly back, forth and sideways, in a must-I-do-everything sort of way. As I remember it, my only function in our matches was to mouth the word "Sorry" from time to time, when the chap body-surfed heroically across my side of the court, or slid past me on his bum into the net.

I should have taken some knitting along really, but unfortunately I didn't have the strength of character for even a silent protest. But I have just remembered that his name was Gerald, which is interesting because I haven't thought about him in years.

I remember how I would occasionally whisper "Mine?" when a shot came directly at my racket, and then regret it when my instinctive reach resulted in a clash of graphite and a prolonged sulk from the chap. Why I didn't hit the chap with the racket is something I ponder to this very day.

Nothing of this sort happens at this Wimbledon level, of course, but you still watch the partners to make sure there's no sexual harrassment, or sulking, or if-you-want-something-done-properly-do-it-yourself tendencies on display. A couple of sharp words were exchanged between Sapsford and Siddall in the first set and it wasn't nice at all, but between Broad and de Swardt there seemed to be considerable harmony. When someone of de Swardt's size and demeanour says "Mine!" I think the correct reply is "Absolutely". No other response would really suffice.

Sampras takes on the world single-handed

Simon Barnes examines the qualities of a champion who needs no partner

It may have escaped your attention, but this has been a distinctly rum Wimbledon. There has been a lot to distract one's attention from the main plot, after all, what with the Brave Brits of various origins, the march past of pouting 16-year-old girls and, of course, the rain.

But if we can get down to reality, or at least tennis, we found ourselves with the most extraordinary semi-final programme in the men's event — one triple champion and three unseeded players.

There were some observers expressing the view before play started yesterday that the chances of Pete Sampras losing another set in the championship were negligible. Pity the first of the unseeds to stand in his way — the Australian, Todd Woodbridge.

It is hard to think of Woodbridge as a distinct entity, at least in tennis terms. He is not Woodbridge, he is 50 per cent of the Woodies. Not a cutesy folk group, but the Australian doubles partnership, unstoppable champions in this unregarded, unreported but well-rewarded version of the game.

The other half of the Woodies is Mark Woodforde. It comes as a suprise to find that they are not, after all, joined at the hip. Each one is capable of winning a tennis match all by himself.

Woody M reached the round of 16, where he took a set off Michael Stich, who went on to become one of the unseeded semi-finalists. Woody T did still better, reaching the semi-finals, where he had the ill-luck to meet Sampras. Sampras won 6-2, 6-1, 7-6 and needed no luck whatsoever.

The Woodies won 12 doubles titles last year. They won the Olympic competition, too, beating the pairing of Broad and a chap called Henman. They have won four consecutive Wimbledon titles. They would stand a chance of being called the best doubles team since open tennis began, were it not for John McEnroe and Peter Fleming, who in 1979 won 15.

It was always one of the many oddly and more or less paradoxically endearing things about McEnroe that he liked to play doubles. It was not as if he needed the money, still less the practice. What he did need was a friend on the tennis court.

Few of the very big names in men's tennis play doubles. Instead, they take the hard and lonely road. For them, tennis is seldom fun, always a fierce and terrible drama. But that is true for spectators, too.

Doubles is the definitive form of the game. It is the form most people play — more rallies, less fetching — and, in terms of shots and rallies and see-sawing advantage, it is a better game for spectators.

Singles is not such good entertainment as doubles, in terms of ball-biffing, but it is deep and rich drama, one of the profoundest and cruellest examinations of character that exists in sport.

Most of the people in the top 20 of tennis are extremely good and, in the main, it is not their forehands and the backhands that separate the champions from the rest. It is their ability to walk the hard and lonely road that they have chosen.

There are some lonely people who yearn for approval, for love, from any source. And on court in singles tennis, the nearest person to you, and by far the most intimate, is your opponent. The match yesterday gave us the perfect example. Sampras was able to turn Woodbridge into his partner, his stooge, his servant.

Sampras was like the centurion who said "go" and he goeth, "come" and he cometh. It is a strange process. Woodbridge came in with a plan and with a champion's determination, for champion he is, but he found himself slowly nudged and cajoled and manoeuvred into doing the bidding of the man who is a champion of the lonely road, the man who has never sought love on a tennis court.

Belonging to a team. To some people, this is the greatest, the most profound of all joys. Shared aims, shared joys, even shared disappointments. To be the one that clings to the catch or kicks the ball off the line is to bring upon yourself a tidal wave of warmth, of love.

Doubles in tennis is something of the same thing, you and me against the world, but yesterday it was the world against Woody and, not surprisingly, Woody came second.

Sampras has known the same feeling, that the world was on one side and just little him on the other. That was after he won his first grand-slam event and came close to breaking under the weight of it all. But he did not. He came out stronger, harder and perhaps lonelier.

Doubles is a better game. At least, better for ordinary people. Singles is too hard, too tough, too downright brutal. It is only really suitable for perfectly extraordinary people. People such as Sampras have a high and lonely destiny.

Broad casts daylight on British prospects

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

HENMAN and Rusedski may be out of Wimbledon, but they were not the last British survivors. In addition to Hannah Collin, who reached the quarter-finals of the girls' singles before being eliminated yesterday by the No 6 seed, Aubrie Rippner, a continuing British presence was guaranteed when Danny Sapsford and Shirli-Ann Siddall faced Neil Broad and his partner, Mariaan de Swardt, of South Africa, in the third round of the mixed doubles. It was Broad who made it to the last-eight stage.

The women's doubles is the part of the tournament that has run most truly to form, or in closest accordance with the seedings. The six top-seeded pairs advanced to the quarter-finals, but the withdrawal of Jana Novotna yesterday gave Sabine Appelmans and Miriam Oremans, seeded No 12, a semi-final place.

There they will meet the No 1 seeds, Gigi Fernandez and Natasha Zvereva, Olympic gold medal-winners and reigning US and French Open champions, who had a close match with Mary Joe Fernandez and Lisa Raymond, the No 5 seeds, losing the first set with a double fault on the Zvereva service. The favourites asserted themselves in the second and third sets, winning 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

The pairing that has captured the imagination of the public is that of Martina Hingis and Arantxa Sánchez Vicario. Their appearances have guaranteed packed houses on the outside courts. Alas, no longer. They found the going hard against Nicole Arendt and Manon Bollegraf, the No 6 seeds, losing 6-4, 5-7, 6-2. Hingis's schedule of three doubles matches yesterday will have delighted Jana Novotna as well as those wanting a glimpse of the world singles No 1.

RESULTS FROM THE [illegible] CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's singles
Winner: £415,000
Runner-up: £207,500
Holder: R Krajicek (Holl)
Semi-final
P SAMPRAS (US) bt T A Woodbridge (Aus) 6-2, 6-1, 7-6
C Pioline (Fr) leads M Stich (Ger) 6-7, 6-2, 6-1

Men's doubles
Winners: £170,030
Runners-up: £85,010
Holders: T A Woodbridge (Aus) and M Woodforde (Aus)
Semi-final
J ELTINGH (Holl) and P HAARHUIS (Holl) bt M DAMM (Cz) and P VIZNER (Cz) 6-2, 6-2, 6-4
Quarter-finals
T A WOODBRIDGE (Aus) and M WOODFORDE (Aus) bt J BJORKMAN (Swe) and N KULTI (Swe) 2-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4
ELTINGH and HAARHUIS bt M PHILIPPOUSSIS (Aus) and P RAFTER (Aus) 4-6, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 10-8

Women's doubles
Winners: £147,010
Runners-up: £73,270
Holders: M Hingis (Switz) and H Sukova (Cz)
Quarter-finals
S APPELMANS (Bel) and M OREMANS (Holl) wo L A DAVENPORT (US) and J NOVOTNA (Cz)
G FERNANDEZ (US) and N ZVEREVA (Bela) bt M J FERNANDEZ (US) and L M RAYMOND (US) 5-7, 6-4, 6-4
L NEILAND (Lat) and H SUKOVA (Cz) bt E S H Callens (Bel) and G Helgeson Nielsen (US) 6-4, 6-4
N J ARENDT (US) and M M BOLLEGRAF (Holl) bt M HINGIS (Switz) and A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) 6-4, 5-7, 6-2

Mixed doubles
Winners: £72,200
Runners-up: £36,100
Holders: C Suk (Cz) and H Sukova (Cz)
Third round
L Paes (India) and R Dragomir (Rom) bt M Barnard (SA) and K Boogert (Holl) 5-7, 6-3, 6-4
N Broad (GB) and M de Swardt (SA) bt D E Sapsford (GB) and S-A Siddall (GB) 7-5, 6-3
G CONNELL (Can) and L A DAVENPORT (US) bt T Middleton (US) and L M McNeil (US) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4
SECOND ROUND: R LEACH (US) and M M BOLLEGRAF (Holl) bt M R J Petchey (GB) and C J Wood (GB) 7-6, 6-3. Sapsford and Siddall bt D JOHNSON (US) and L M WILD (US) 6-2, 6-3; J L de Jager (SA) and M Hingis (Switz) bt P GALBRAITH (US) and L M RAYMOND (US) 6-4, 0-6, 10-8; C SUK (Cz) and H SUKOVA (Cz) bt J Gimelstob (US) and C Rubin (US) 7-6, 6-1.

Men's over-35 doubles
Winners: £14,000
Runners-up: £11,000
Holders: W J Fibak (Pol) and T Wilkinson (US)
FIRST ROUND (round robin): P B McNamara (Aus) and P F McNamee (Aus) bt B Gilbert (US) and T Mayotte (US) 1-6, 6-3, 6-4; A A Mayer (US) and G Mayer (US) bt A Amritraj (India) and V Amritraj (India) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; A M Jarrett (GB) and J R Smith (GB) bt H Guenthardt (Switz) and B Taroczy (Hun) 7-6, 7-6; J B Fitzgerald (Aus) and A Jarryd (Swe) bt M Bahrami (Iran) and P Dupre (US) 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; G Donnelly (US) and D Visser (SA) bt C Dowdeswell (GB) and C J Mottram (GB) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4; P Slozil (Cz) and T Smid (Cz) bt Dowdeswell and Mottram 7-5, 6-3; Donnelly and Visser bt H Pfister (US) and L Shiras (US) 7-5, 6-4; Jarrett and Smith bt Bahrami and Dupre 7-6, 6-1; K Curren (US) and J C Kriek (US) bt McNamara and McNamee 6-3, 6-4.

Women's over-35 doubles
Winners: £10,000
Runners-up: £7,500
Holders: J M Durie (GB) and A E Smith (US)
FIRST ROUND (round robin): R Casals (US) and B F Stove (Holl) wo R Nideffer (SA) and S Walsh (US); J M Durie (GB) and A E Smith (US) bt H Mandlikova (Aus) and J C Russell (US) 6-0, 6-1; W M Turnbull (Aus) and S V Wade (GB) bt H Gourlay (Aus) and G E Reid (Aus) 6-2, 6-2.

Boys' singles
Holder: V Voltchkov (Bela)
QUARTER-FINALS: D Elsner (Ger) bt J Jeanpierre (Fr) 6-2, 6-3; J Lisnard (Fr) bt X Malisse (Bel) 6-3, 7-5; W Whitehouse (SA) bt M Gregorc (Slovenia) 6-3, 6-2.
THIRD ROUND: Elsner bt A Barnes (GB) 6-2, 6-1; Malisse bt F Gonzalez (Chile) 6-2, 7-6; Whitehouse bt R Nita (Rom) 6-4, 6-2; Jeanpierre bt L Hewitt (Aus) 6-3, 6-4; O Rochus (Bel) bt A Simoni (Br) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4; Gregorc bt K Ziv (Isr) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3; Lisnard bt L Horna (Peru) 5-7, 6-2, 6-4; B Vahaly (US) bt F Cardinali (Arg) 3-6, 7-6, 6-4.
SECOND ROUND: Jeanpierre bt M Llodra (Fr) 6-7, 6-2, 6-4; Nita bt F Aniola (Pol) 6-3, 6-4.

Girls' singles
Holder: A Mauresmo (Fr)
QUARTER-FINALS: A Morigami (Japan) bt Z Gubacsi (Hun) 6-3, 6-3; C Black (Zim) bt I Seljutina (Bela) 6-0, 6-2; A Rippner (US) bt H Collin (GB) 6-1, 6-4.
THIRD ROUND: Gubacsi bt J Woehr (Ger) 6-1, 6-1; J Henin (Bel) bt H Farr (GB) 6-0, 6-2; Rippner bt M Irvin (US) 6-2, 6-1; Morigami bt M Iversen (Den) 6-4, 6-2; Black bt A Grahame (Aus) 6-4, 6-4; Collin bt R Fujiwara (Japan) 6-1, 6-4; B Stewart (Aus) bt A Tordoff (GB) 6-3, 6-3; Seljutina bt S Rizzi (Fr) 7-6, 6-1
SECOND ROUND: Collin bt K Srebotnik (Slovenia) 6-2, 6-4.

FOOTBALL: ENGLAND MIDFIELD PLAYER SIGNS THREE-YEAR DEAL WITH SCOTTISH CHAMPIONS

Gascoigne decides future lies with Rangers

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

PAUL GASCOIGNE, the England midfield player, yesterday signed a new three-year contract with Rangers, keeping him at the club until June 2000 and ending speculation that he was considering leaving the Bell's Scottish League champions.

After "brief and amicable" discussions with David Murray, the Rangers chairman, Gascoigne agreed to stay at Ibrox, where he moved to from Lazio for £4.3 million two years ago. Murray has spent heavily during the summer as Rangers attempt to create a Scottish record of winning ten successive league titles. "Paul has been a tremendous servant," Murray said. "When he is playing the way he can, there is no criticism. The problems are when he is not playing."

In a statement, Gascoigne, 30, said: "I'm enjoying being part of Rangers and want to be part of the new team, combining the strengths of the nine-in-a-row squad with the fantastic new talent that has joined the club over the close season."

Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, yesterday defended his policy of signing foreign players. Of the ten players Wenger has brought to Highbury since he joined the club nine months ago, only one — Matthew Upson, from Luton Town — is English.

"You have to buy outside this country because of the prices and availability," Wenger said. "For the price of one English player, you can probably buy three or four from abroad. The other managers are doing the same."

Wenger, who has spent more than £20 million strengthening his squad and recouped only £8 million in sales, also spoke about the club's poor disciplinary record of 83 bookings and five dismissals last season — the worst in the FA Carling Premiership.

"I really don't know the reason," Wenger said, "but I don't think we have killed anybody. I will go to the FA, argue our case and listen to what they have to say. Perhaps it is an area in which we have to improve; maybe we'll have to channel our aggression in a different way."

Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, has played down reports that the signing of Paul Ince, the England and Internazionale midfield player, has been completed. "There's still a lot of work to be done," Evans said. "We're inching forward all the time and trying to bring it to a conclusion."

THE FITNESS FRAGRANCE BY RALPH LAUREN

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GOLF

Westwood fortifies challenge by new order

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN

THE young European players for whom there have been so many calls as their seniors move towards the Phylosan age seem to be arriving. Lee Westwood, 24, has widened his lead at the halfway stage of the Murphy's Irish Open and though the field is studded with every gnarled veteran of golf on this Continent, it is two twentysomething Scandinavians who are sharing second place.

Michael Jonzon, 25, from Sweden, broke Westwood's course record of 65 at Druids Glen, which had lasted all of 24 hours. A 64, including one bogey and a dazzling run of five successive birdies, was good scoring on a difficult day. It took Jonzon, the Portuguese Open champion, to six under par and within two strokes of Westwood.

SCORES

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated

LEADERS AFTER TWO ROUNDS: 134: L Westwood 65, 69. 136: T Bjorn (Den) 66, 70; M Jonzon (Swe) 72, 64. 138: C Montgomerie 68, 70. 139: E Romero (Arg) 72, 67. 140: M Tunnicliff 73, 67; R Allenby (Aus) 68, 72; W Westner (SA) 70, 70; D Chopra (Swe) 71, 69; D Tapping 72, 68. 141: I Woosnam 71, 70; E Darcy 70, 71; A Forsbrand (Swe) 71, 70; K Tomori (Japan) 72, 69. 142: S Richardson 67, 75; M Gronberg (Swe) 71, 71; J Lomas 72, 70; K Eriksson (Swe) 71, 71; R Green (Aus) 72, 70; D Carter 71, 71; R Lee 70, 72; N Faldo 69, 73; R Chapman 69, 73. 143: R Muntz (Holl) 70, 73; C Watts 74, 69; R McFarlane 67, 76; C Rocca (It) 69, 74; R Davis (Aus), 68, 75; D Gilford 68, 75; P Harrington 71, 72; E O'Connell 71, 72; A Johnstone (Zim) 73, 70; P Price 70, 73; G Brand Jr 73, 70.

Thomas Bjorn, 26, from Denmark, had a 70, another near-faultless round, and is also six under par. He was the only man not to have a bogey or worse on the first day and he made only one mistake on the second. He hit a loose drive on the 6th, which ended in some bushes, and then a poor chip from 40 yards that got no nearer than 15 feet. All in all, a six on a long par-four was what he deserved and was in marked contrast to the tidiness and efficiency of his play on the other 17 holes.

Bjorn's English is almost as good as his golf. Asked to explain why he wears clothing marked with an H²O logo, he explained: "It's a Danish clothing company who specialise in sailing clothes. A lot of the guys have been giving me a lot of stick lately about this because of all the rain."

Asked whether he had been distracted when Costantino Rocca, a playing partner, threw a club into a tree on the 18th, Bjorn replied, with a grin: "He's an Italian, what can you say? He is allowed to do it. That is the way he is. It did not bother me."

It was illuminating to patrol the 9th, 10th and 11th holes while Nick Faldo, Padraig Harrington and Raymond Burns played through, followed immediately by Westwood, Sam Torrance and Ronan Rafferty. Faldo was fretting, as only he can.

The inconsistencies that he is having with his putting were encapsulated on two of these holes. On the 9th, Fanny Sunesson helped him to line up his five-foot birdie putt, squatting behind him as he addressed the ball — a routine that they sometimes use and sometimes forego. It did not work.

Faldo wrenched the putt wide of the hole, as an amateur might, only to demonstrate almost perfect weight and accuracy with a 30-foot putt on the 10th. The ball, bouncing over the spiked-up green, clipped the hole and spun away.

Torrance and Malcolm Mason, his caddie, arrived beneath their own clouds of smoke from Torrance's fat cigar and Mason's cigarette, while Westwood, the hero of the hour, seemed without a care in the world.

On the 10th, Westwood was given a masterclass in chipping. From a little dip no more than six feet from the green, he used his three-wood to chase his ball up a slight slope. It ran eight feet past, from where he two-putted. Torrance, two feet nearer, played a good, old-fashioned chip, squeezing the ball tightly so that it shuddered to a halt under backspin, a few inches from the flag.

If that hole demonstrated Torrance's guile, the next was an exemplar of Westwood's length. A powerful drive was followed by a magnificent fairway wood, a shot hit smoothly, powerfully and so accurately that it landed on the middle of the green and rolled to within 20 feet of the hole.

A birdie four was not a good enough reward for such a stroke. It was the stroke of a champion and tomorrow evening that is just what Westwood may have become.

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Cundell and Froud, of UCW, nearside, lost to their German opponents after a brisk start in the Double Sculls

Searle flat out to beat student

BY MIKE ROSEWELL
ROWING CORRESPONDENT

GREG SEARLE, Britain's World Cup sculler, had to be at his best to knock Adri Middag, of Holland, out of the Diamond Sculls at Henley Royal Regatta yesterday.

While most people were still at breakfast, Searle produced a blistering start, never rating below 40 until just before the Quarter Mile, where he led by 1¼ lengths. That quarter length of clear water was crucial, since Searle could never crack the Dutch student. "He hung on and on and I knew I would have to race all the way," Searle said.

His semi-final opponent today is Jamie Koven, the top American, who celebrated the Fourth of July with a more comfortable win over his countryman, Steve Tucker, ominously in a slightly faster time than Searle. Peter Haining, the British lightweight, will meet Matthijs van der Schoot, of Holland, in the other semi-final.

The potentially intriguing Women's Sculls race between Guin Batten, the British No 1, and Sarah Winckless, the 6ft 4in young pretender from Cambridge, was an anti-climax. After about 30 strokes, Batten, who had a slight lead, moved over into Winckless's lane. The umpire, Angus Robertson, said nothing. Batten moved back, but just before the quarter-mile, the blades overlapped and clashed. The umpire remained mute.

Batten carried on, Winckless hesitated and the issue was decided. Winckless appealed at the finish, but Robertson said: "You were out of your water and you were behind."

Winckless admitted: "Nobody should have been disqualified, but I couldn't believe it was allowed to get to the clashing stage."

Mike Sweeney, the umpire, was more exercised in a great Thames Cup eights race between Thames Tradesmen and London RC. There is no love lost between the two Tideway rivals and the score this season stood at 2-1 to London before yesterday's contest. Tradesmen managed to hold on to an early narrow lead, but both crews were warned for steering up the Enclosures, Jemma Fearnside, the Tradesmen's cox, who switched between the two clubs this year, appearing most at fault. A post-race appeal by London was turned down by Sweeney.

Pete Bridge and Matt Parish, the British internationals, seem determined to be crowd-pleasers in the Goblets pairs. After nearly being rowed through by the South Africans on Thursday, they squeezed past Queen's Tower on the line to win by a foot, whereas Rob Thatcher and Ben Hunt-Davis had another easy paddle.

The University of Washington eight looked very powerful in their first appearance in the Ladies Plate and in an upset in the Queen Mother quads, Britain's World Cup quad were beaten by their under-23 equivalents, the youngsters hitting the front in the last 15 strokes.

RESULTS FROM HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

Thames Cup

Holders: Neptune (Ire)

QUARTER-FINALS: Nottingham A bt Upper Thames A 1¾l, 6min 23sec; Neptune (Ire) bt Essen-Kupferdreh (Ger) 1¼l, 6:28; Thames Tradesmen's A bt London ¾l, 6.27.
SECOND ROUND: Thames Tradesmen's A bt Nottingham and Union 2¾l, 7:10.

Princess Elizabeth Cup

Holders: Brentwood College School (Can)

QUARTER-FINALS: St Paul's bt Monmouth 2½l, 6min 54sec; Westminster bt Pangbourne 1½l, 6:44; Shrewsbury A bt St Edward's ¼l, 6:34; Canford bt Brooks Sch (US) 1½l, 6:49

Wyfold Cup

Holders: Queen's Tower

QUARTER-FINALS: London bt Nottingham rno, 7min 30sec; Univ of London Tyrian A bt Furnivall Sculling Club 1¼l, 7:05; Molesey A bt Clyde Amateur ¾l, 6:54; Queen's Tower bt Commercial ⅓l, 6:54.
SECOND ROUND: Furnivall Sculling Club bt Vesta 1¼l, 7:34; Univ of London Tyrian A bt Sydney ¾l, 7:25

Britannia Cup

Holders: Oxford Brookes University

QUARTER-FINALS: Univ of London bt St Andrew 4½l, 7min 23sec; Trinity Coll, Dublin bt Lea 2¾l, 7:14; Hansa Hamburg (Ger) bt Univ of Minnesota A (US) ¾l, 7:07; Molesey bt Henley 1¾l, 7 12.
SECOND ROUND: Molesey bt Univ of Bristol 2¾l, 7:43

Temple Cup

Holders: Yale University (US)

THIRD ROUND: Oxford Brookes Univ A bt Queen's Univ, Belfast 1l, 6min 39sec; Harvard Univ (US) bt University Coll, Dublin 1¼l, 6:39; Goldie bt New Coll, Oxford 5l, 6:33; INSA Lyon (Fr) bt ASR Nereus (Holl) 1l, 6:41; Univ of Washington (US) bt Cambridge Univ Lightweights 1½l, 6:29; Univ of Pennsylvania (US) bt Durham Univ B 3½l, 6:52; Imperial Coll and King's Coll, London bt Leeds Univ 2¼l, 6:39.
SECOND ROUND: Nephthys A bt ASR Nereus (Holl) 1¾l, 7:06; Oxford Brookes Univ bt Glasgow Univ 3½l, 7:10

Fawley Cup

Holders: Windsor Boys' School and Poplar, Blackwall & District RC

FIRST ROUND: Haverford Sch bt Wycliffe Coll 1½l, 7min 07sec, Wycliffe Coll and Gloucester bt Tiffin Sch 3½l, 7:08 St George's Coll bt St Benedict's Coll (SA) 2½l, 7:10; Windsor Boys' Sch and Claires Court Sch bt Star Club and Rob Roy 2½l, 7:04.

Visitors' Cup

Holders: Wageningsche Argo (Holl)

QUARTER-FINALS: Imperial Coll and Charing Cross & Westminster, London bt Bedford Sch A 4¾l, 7min 10sec. Abingdon Sch bt Latymer Upper 2¾l, 7:15; Univ of London B bt Univ of Natal (SA) 3½l, 6.57
FIRST ROUND: Latymer Upper bt Kingston GS 3¼l, 7:48, Abingdon Sch bt Rollins Coll (US) 1l, 7.39

Ladies' Plate

Holders: Goldie BC

QUARTER-FINALS: Oxford Brookes Univ and Notts County bt Leander ¾l, 6min 35sec, Isis bt Univ of London 1¼l, 6:27, Univ of Washington (US) bt Melbourne Univ (Aus) 3l, 6:27, Notts County and Oxford Brookes Univ bt Stanford (US) easily, 6:25

Queen Mother Cup

Holders: Mainzer RV (Ger) and Neusser RV (Ger)

FIRST ROUND: Rob Roy bt Walton ¾l, 7min 01sec; Tara bt Army and RAF 4¾l, 7:08, Maidenhead and Henley bt Upper Thames 2¼l, 7:03; Tideway Scullers Sch A bt London 4¼l, 6:51; Queen's Tower and Poplar, Blackwall & District ½l, 6:29. Augusta Sculling Center (US) bt Melbourne Univ (Aus) easily, 6.28.

Diamond Sculls

Holder: M L O Vervoorn (Holl)

QUARTER-FINALS: G M P Searle bt A Middag 1l, 7min 42sec; M P van der School bt D J Gleeson 1l, 7:56, P M Haining bt G C S Smith 1¼l, 8:04, J W Koven bt R S C Tucker 2¼l, 7 40
SECOND ROUND: G C S Smith bt R J Briscoe 2l, 8:38

Princess Royal Cup

Holder: M H Brandin (Swe)

QUARTER-FINALS: R E Rudkin bt L M Hansen easily, 9min 31sec; B E Roye bt A J Sanders 1¾l, 8.56; G Batten bt S K Winckless easily, 8 32, M H Brandin bt C J Orsmond easily, 8:28
FIRST ROUND: A J Sanders bt C M Hill 2½l 9:40.

Silver Goblets and Nickalls' Cup

Holders: A Nader (Austria) and H Bauer (Austria)

QUARTER-FINALS: R Thatcher and F B Hunt-Davis bt S J Mepham and P W Mepham 4¾l, 7min 54sec, C P Fischer and S Franke bt I A Harris and J M Hasman 3¼l, 7.58, P A J Bridge and M H W Parish bt J D Hepworth and J P Purnell 1ft, 7 32
FIRST ROUND: R Harris and D P Hendry bt T Mishima and N Hisabe 3¾l, 8 37

Double Sculls

Holders: G Walker (US) and G Lewis (US)

QUARTER-FINALS: B A Klein and R J Weaver bt D P Atkins and P R Noble 4¼l, 7min 34sec; M D Free and D Free bt J C Baker and M M Bevan easily, 7:31, A Stockmann and A Ortz bt G S Cundell and D Y Froud 2¼l, 7:41
FIRST ROUND: A Stockmann and A Ortz bt R M N Galer and J van Oneessche 1ft, 7:46, J Pim and J F E Ball bt P E Reedy and P T Antonie 1ft, 7:49

RUGBY LEAGUE

Castleford hope for change of fortune

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE make-up of the Stones Super League for the 1998 season could be determined at venues 500 miles apart today. In Paris, victory for Andy Goodway's side over their fellow strugglers, Castleford Tigers, would virtually guarantee their survival. Hull are favourites to take the place of the losers and, by the time Super League's bottom two clubs step out at the Charlety Stadium this evening, they could have clinched a place among the elite.

The Sharks, who lost their unbeaten league record last weekend, when relegation-threatened Featherstone inflicted a shock home defeat, will be crowned champions of the first division if they take a point from their battle with their only challengers, Huddersfield, at the McAlpine Stadium.

Castleford have threatened upsets in their past two matches, at London and Bradford, but they have won just once in 16 games and time is fast running out. Their coach, Stuart Raper, said yesterday: "After the game at Bradford [on Wednesday night, which they lost 34-20], all the boys were very fired up. They are keen to get out there and make amends for losses in games in which we have been been the better side. Our luck has got to change some time."

The Tigers will be without Mike Ford, the scrum half, who tore a hamstring at Odsal in midweek, but Jason Critchley, the centre, is back after a three-match absence. Paris collected their third away win of the season at Halifax Blue Sox last Sunday, but, despite a remarkable 24-0 win over Perth Reds, have yet to register a home win in Super League this year.

Huddersfield, who have won their past five matches, will close the gap on Hull to three points if they manage to prolong the Humberside team's agony, but their coach, Steve Ferres, is not getting carried away. He is all too aware that even if Hull are beaten, they will need only to beat the bottom club, Workington, in their final match on July 20 to take the title. "It's very unlikely that Workington will go to the Boulevard and win," Ferres said, "but we can live in hope."

Bradford, the runaway leaders of the Super League, visit Knowsley Road tomorrow for a match that was being touted as a potential championship decider two months ago. However, St Helens have won just two of ten matches since their Challenge Cup triumph over the Bulls at Wembley on May 3 and could now struggle to finish in the top four.

ATHLETICS

Defeated Johnson steps up his training

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MICHAEL JOHNSON has adopted the training regime that he normally reserves for leading championships as he prepares for his next race, in Stuttgart tomorrow week. Johnson, the Olympic 200 and 400 metres champion, saw his 58-race unbeaten record over 400 metres disappear in Paris last week and that has lent extra significance to the date in Germany.

He has been conducting morning and afternoon workouts, with weightlifting sessions in between. "We've done some of that before, but only when preparing for a major championship," Johnson said. "We're doing it now because we have only a short period of time to get ready for the next race."

Johnson missed two weeks of training after straining his left thigh in a 150 metres race against Donovan Bailey in Toronto. He is still troubled by the injury.

"At this point, I'm not in the shape I need to be in to go and run the way I want and the way I need to be able to run," Johnson said. "I want to be 100 per cent next time I run, instead of 90 or 95 per cent."

Johnson had only one week to prepare for the race in Paris, which was won by Antonio Pettigrew in 44.86sec. Johnson was fifth in 45.76sec, his first 400 metre defeat since February of 1989.

"It's not important to me to say I have won so many races in a row," Johnson said. "What a win streak gives me is confidence going into the next race that I'm still doing things right. Going into Paris, I didn't take all of that into account, so it was a surprise. I thought even at 85 to 90 per cent, I could still run 44.20 or 44.30."

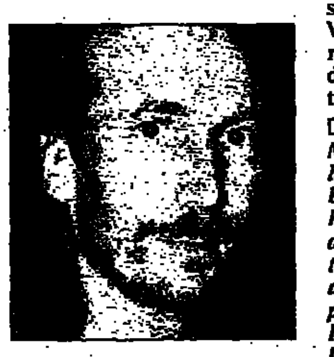
The grand prix meeting scheduled for Sestriere in Italy on July 19 has been cancelled because of financial and management difficulties, the organisers said yesterday. The northern Italian resort hosted the alpine skiing world championships in February and officials from the Sestriere sports club said that it was impossible to stage another international event so soon afterwards.

The Sestriere athletics meeting has gained a reputation for producing impressive performances in recent years, mainly because of the resort's high altitude.

☐ Steve Backley withdrew from his meeting with Jan Zelezny, the javelin world record-holder, at the Bislett Games in Oslo last night. Backley is experiencing problems with glands in his neck and withdrew after seeking medical advice.

Warne adds to deadly repertoire

SIMON BARNES



On Saturday

AS WE all know, television is the most important thing in sport — nay, in the world; nay, in the entire history of the galaxy — and so it is this column's pleasure to bring you Love Your Telly Week.

First man up to bat is Shane Warne, he of Fizzometer fame, of which more later. He has just done yet another ad for Nike, following the line of thought that what you wear on your feet is an essential aspect of turning the ball square; and the New Zealanders have taken against it in a big way.

The ad shows Warne bowling a ball that turns itself into a chainsaw, which then hacks its way though both bat and stumps. Mildly amusing, yes? The ad went down a storm in Australia, but the Kiwis felt it showed violence "in a gratuitous and wantonly destructive fashion".

New Zealanders are a charming but ever so slightly literal-minded people.

Soccer rues

Australians, however, tend to be sensitive little flowers and Terry Venables, coach of the Australia national football squad, has caused the Aussies much distress. Venables is being paid Aus $1.5 million for the job, but he has always believed that a chap can never have too much of the stuff. And so he has taken part in a television ad of his own, for a soft drink called Oasis — an ad that pokes fun at Australians.

Venables is shown in various attitudes of despair at the Australian lack of worldly sophistication when it comes to football. "Don't punch it — kick it!" he shouts. "In the goal, not over it!" Very mildly amusing, yes? An Australian football commentater, Les Murray, has called the ad "an international embarrassment". Venables himself said it was "a bit of a laugh".

Striking out

Over to Ronaldo, the world's top footballer. He is to take part in a soap opera in Brazil in which he falls in love with his real-life — in so far as footballers have real lives — girlfriend, an actress called Suzana Warner.

Ronaldo will play the part of the coach to a female soccer team and the no doubt esculent Suzana turns out to be one of the players. The vignette forms part of Malhaco, or Workout, a soap based around a sports centre. Ronaldo, now all of 20, still doesn't know if he plays for Barcelona or Internazionale, but at least the world of soap opera should give him some kind of foothold on reality.

Pooled stories

Michelle Smith, the Irish triple gold medal-winning swimmer from the last Olympic Games, who brought the United States to the brink of the declaration of war against mighty Ireland, has also taken the TV shilling. She has signed up to do a series called The Sporting Press Gang, something that has caused plenty of controversy in Ireland, where many people remain agnostic about the whispers of drug-taking — and her consistent denials — that still surround her.

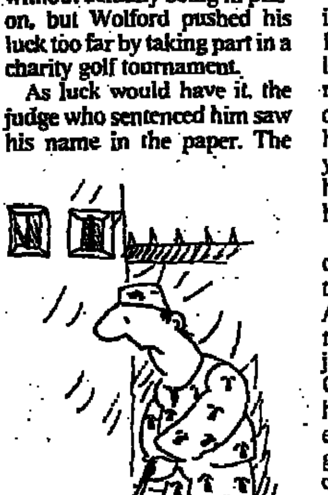
Meanwhile, her husband and coach, the suspended discus-chucking drug cheat, Erik de Bruin, has signed up as a commentator for Dutch television during the world athletics championships.

Clapped in irons

I have been waiting for years to run this story. A man has been sent to jail for playing golf. Nothing else. Sent down for the ultimate crime: golf.

Clint Wolford had served six months of a four-year prison sentence for "vehicular homicide". He was in the middle of the last 20 days of a "work release program", which is a way of going to jail without actually being in prison, but Wolford pushed his luck too far by taking part in a charity golf tournament.

As luck would have it, the judge who sentenced him saw his name in the paper. The golf violated the terms of the "work release" business and so the judge ruled that Wolford had to serve out the rest of his sentence in prison. I don't know much about justice, but I know what I like.



☐ Congratulations to Colin Murphy, the manager who launched a thousand footballing malapropisms. He has just been appointed manager of the Vietnam football team. He is the fourth manager in 12 months, the previous three being Karl Heinz Weigang, Tran Duy Long and Le Dinh Chinh. The West has many things to answer for in Vietnam, but surely this is too much.

That's my boy

The famous free kick by Roberto Carlos, of Brazil, against France was one of those kicks that went round the world — but nowhere did it land harder than in the home of a Brazilian peasant named Argemiro da Silva.

Da Silva saw the goal and instantly concluded that Roberto Carlos was his long-lost son. He produced a vaccination certificate in the name of Roberto Carlos da Silva. He hasn't seen his son for 22 years, he said, because he left his family after the death of his wife.

The snag is that the certificate is for September 3, 1968; the player's actual birthday is April 10, 1973. Da Silva is not trying to get any money, he just wants his son. Roberto Carlos, clearly a decent chap, has arranged a meeting "to explain with all possible regrets that it is a case of confusion". He already has two parents, which is normally considered sufficient.

☐ The Nicolas Feuillatte Shane Warne Fizzometer currently stands at eight.

FOOTBALL

Ireland hit by injury to Murphy

IRELAND'S attempt to win the third-place play-off at the World Youth Cup in Malaysia has been hit by injuries and suspension. Most tellingly, Brian Kerr, the Ireland manager, is likely to be without Stephen Murphy, of Huddersfield Town, for the match against Ghana in the Shah Alam Stadium in Kuala Lumpur today.

Both Murphy and Niall Inman, of Peterborough United, have suffered foot injuries and were forced to pull out of the squad's final training session yesterday. Inman should be fit to take his place in the Ireland midfield, but Murphy may not even be able to take a place on the substitutes' bench.

"This is an old injury which has flared up again," Murphy said. "I will just have to see how it reacts."

Kerr is also hit by the loss of Neil Fenn, the Tottenham Hotspur striker, who is suspended as the result of the caution he received in the quarter-final against Argentina on Wednesday. It was his second of the tournament.

Kerr is likely to replace Fenn with Dessie Baker, of Shelbourne, who won an FA Youth Cup-winner's medal when with Manchester United two years ago. Fenn also played in that match, for Tottenham.

Baker started Ireland's game against Morocco, which they won with Damien Duff's "golden goal" in extra time.

Ireland and Ghana met in the first round of the tournament, Ghana winning 2-1, but Kerr's players felt that they were unlucky and are confident of gaining revenge.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

OSLO: Bislett Games: Men: 200m: 1, D Bailey (Can) 20.14sec; 2, G Moen (Nor) 20.23; 3, P Stevens (Bel) 20.40. 110m hurdles: 1, A Johnson (US) 13.14sec; 2, F Schwarthoff (Ger) 13.21; 3, A Jarrett (GB) 13.30; 4, C Jackson 13.34 (GB). Women: 400m: 1, C Freeman (Aus) 49.39sec; 2, D Fraser (GB) 50.87; 3, O Afolabi (Nigeria) 50.99. 100m hurdles: 1, M Freeman (Jam) 12.74sec; 2, G Russell (Jam) 12.91; 3, D Rose (Jam) 12.94. Discus: 1, B Faumuina (NZ) 68.52m; 2, F Dietzsch (Ger) 65.90; 3, N Grasu (Rom) 63.60

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE: Adelaide 16.10 (106) bt West Coast Eagles 4.7 (31)

BASEBALL

INTER-LEAGUE GAMES: Texas 8 Colorado 3, San Diego 10 Seattle 8; Anaheim 2 Los Angeles 8, San Francisco 6 Oakland 4
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia 4 Chicago Cubs 5, Montreal 2 Atlanta 15; New York Mets 4 Florida 10; Houston 3 Cincinnati 4, St Louis 4 Pittsburgh 6
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Milwaukee 5 Minnesota 8, Detroit 1 Baltimore 10; Toronto 1 New York Yankees 3, Chicago White Sox 1 Boston 4

BASKETBALL

BARCELONA: Women's European championship: Quarter-finals: Greece 72 Poland 62; Yugoslavia 75 Lithuania 80. Play-offs: Israel 84 Germany 75, France 84 Croatia 79

BOWLS

WORTHING: Home international championships: Team event: Wales bt Ireland 129-99 (Wales skips first. R Weale bt G McCloy 24-14, D Wilkins bt E Parkinson 28-18, M Ansty bt S Allen 29-16, S Wilshire lost to P Smyth 16-18; J Price drew with G Scott 16-16, W Thomas lost to N Graham 16-17). Scotland bt Channel Islands 158-85 (Scotland skips first. J Aitken bt B Simon 39-11, A Marshall bt V Dorey 31-8, W W Wood bt C Renouf 25-17; G Robertson bt D Le Marquand 25-21, G Adrain bt P Ingrouille 17-16, R Corsie bt P James 21-12). England bt Wales 128-116 (England skips first. A Thomson lost to Wilshire 15-24; D Cutler bt Wilkins 23-21; D Ward bt Weale 27-10, A Allcock lost to Ansty 16-19; L Miller lost to Price 20-24, D Denison bt W Thomas 26-18). Ireland bt Channel Islands 143-87 (Ireland skips first: G Scott bt Renoul 35-14; P Smyth bt Dorey 21-14; N Graham lost to Le Marquand 15-19, E Parkinson bt Simon 27-16; S Allen bt James 23-10; G McCloy bt Ingrouille 22-14). Final placings: 1, Scotland 62pts; 2, Wales 57; 3, England 46; 4, Ireland 45; 5, Channel Islands 10.

BOXING

BANGKOK: World Boxing Council bantamweight championship: Sirimongkol Parkview (Thai, holder) bt V Rabanales (Mex) pts.

CRICKET

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Final day of three: RAF Vine Lane, Uxbridge: Sussex 147 (T A Radford 51, N D Martin 4-25) and 55-0. Middlesex 384-7dec (D J Goodchild 145, D C Nash 77, B L Hutton 72). Match drawn. Luton: Kent 355-8 dec (T N Wren 83) and 34-0 dec. Northamptonshire 66-1 dec and 319-8 (R R Montgomerie 114, A Fordham 104; D A Scott 5-63). Northamptonshire win by two wickets. Bristol: Gloucester 302-4 dec (M G N Windows 157, M J Church 50) and 215-2 (R I Dawson 105 not out, Church 90 not out). Surrey 504 (D J Bicknell 244, N Shahid 81, A D Paterson 63, D Forder 5-139). Match drawn. Taunton: Somerset 300-1 dec (S Treagus 132 retired hurt, H Morgan 112 not out) and second innings forfeit. Glamorgan first innings forfeit and 301-2 (A W Evans 124, W L Law 115 not out). Glamorgan win by eight wickets. Chesterfield: Leicestershire 300-5 dec (J M Dakin 100, S Richardson 87) v Derbyshire. Match drawn. Todmorden: Durham 192 and 225 (S Hutton 61, J A Daley 56, G M Hamilton 5-65), Yorkshire 429. Yorkshire win by an innings and 11 runs. Worcester: Warwickshire 274-6 dec (M A Sheikh 93, W G Khan 55) and second innings forfeit, Worcestershire first innings forfeit and 175-3 (C G Mason 70). Match drawn. Worksop CC: Nottinghamshire v Essex. No play — match abandoned.

FOOTBALL

WOMEN'S EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group B: Italy 2 Denmark 2 (in Lillestrom, Norway). Norway 0 Germany 0 (in Moss, Norway)

GOLF

LEMONT, Illinois: Motorola Western Open: Leading first-round scores (United States unless stated): 66: M O'Meara. 67: D Stockton Jr, J Furyk, T Woods, P Blackmar. 68: D Duval. 69: T Armour, M Hulbert, A Magee, J Sluman, R Alarcon (Mex), S Sticker, M Bradley, T Purtzer. 70: H Royer, W Andrade, M Springer, M Calcavecchia, S Lowery, R Cochran, B Geiberger, T Pernice, L Roberts, L Mize, B Quigley
SYLVANIA, Ohio: LPGA Jamie Farr Classic: Leading first-round scores (United States unless stated): 65: K Webb (Aus). 66: K Shipman, L Rinker-Graham. 67: T Green, K Robbins, V Odegard. 68: L West, N Lopez, S Little (SA), C Johnston-Forbes, C Figg-Currier, M Morris, T Hanson. European scores: 70: S Croce (It). 71: L Neumann (Swe), C Hj Koch (Swe). H Alfredsson (Swe). 72: K Marshall (GB). 73: A M Palli (Fr), N Daghe (Swe). 74: A Nicholas (GB), C Matthew (Swe). 76: C Pierce (GB). 80: E Dahllof (Swe).
CLERMONT-FERRAND, France: European Challenge Tour: Leading first-round scores (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 65: D A Russell. 66: S Delagrange (Fr). 67: J Carnes (Sp), N Vanhootegem (Bel). 68: S Watson, D Jones, P Ferran (Fr), G Garbero (US), M Litton, L Magnin (Fr). 69: I Giner (Sp), P Edmond (Fr), M Reale (It), E Dussart (Fr), J-P Sallat (Fr), J Lawson (Fr).
HUDDERSFIELD: Lawrence Batley seniors tournament: Leading first-round scores (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 68: N Coles, M Gregson, B Huggett. 69: N Ratcliffe (Aus), T Britz (SA), D Jones. 70: L Higgins, A Garrido (Sp), H Flatman, D Simon (US), W Hardwick (Can), D Huish, R Campagnoli (It). 71: J Rhodes, C Evans (US), G Hunt, B Verwey (SA), B Waites, A Croce (It)

HOCKEY

SEOUL: Telecom women's Cup: Argentina 0 Canada 1, South Korea 2 Great Britain 1, Holland 0 Australia 2.

MODERN PENTATHLON

MOSCOW: Women's European championship: Leading individual final positions: 1, K Allenby (GB) 5,151pts (1,096 shooting, 969 fencing, 1,110 swimming, 1,100 riding, 876 running); 2, I Kowalewska (Pol) 5,101 (1,000, 1,124, 1,133, 1,040, 804); 3, E Maloszyc (Pol) 5,093 (976, 1,031, 1,140, 1,070, 876); 4, J Shubenok (Bela) 5,041 (988, 1,031, 1,142, 900, 980); 5, F Foghetti (It) 5,010 (1,012, 876, 1,144, 1,100, 878). Teams: 1, Poland 15,163pts; 2, Italy 14,454; 3, Russia 14,071; 4, Belarus 14,057; 5, Hungary 13,728; 6, Great Britain 13,349

RUGBY LEAGUE

ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP: Bradford 40 St Helens 16; Castleford 48 Hull Kingston Rovers 6, Featherstone 18 Oldham 12, Halifax 30 Warrington 22; Leeds 28 Salford 18; Wigan 38 Hull 40
AUSTRALASIAN SUPER LEAGUE: Penrith Panthers 26 North Queensland Cowboys 33.
AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (ARL): Newcastle 14 Sydney City 14.

SAILING

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE: Sixth leg (Boston to Southampton, latest positions as at 12.08GMT yesterday with miles to Southampton): 1, Pause To Remember 2,308; 2, Toshiba Wave Warrior 2,313; 3, Group 4 2,313; 4, 3Com 2,314; 5, Nuclear Electric 2,314; 6, Courtaulds International 2,315; 7, Concert 2,315; 8, Commercial Union 2,317; 9, Heath Insured II 2,322; 10, Global Teamwork 2,324; 11, Motorola 2,324; 12, Time & Tide 2,325; 13, Save The Children 2,326; 14, Ocean Rover 2,334

SHOOTING

BISLEY: Services Shooting Championships: Royal Navy Pistol Championships: 1, PO T Amy (Air Command) 998; 2, Lt Cdr I Danbury (Plymouth) 990. Royal Marines Pistol: 1, Cpl R Osborne 714; 2, WO T Sands 799. Royal Navy & Royal Marines Queen's Medal (Leaders after seven stages): 1, WO T Sands (RM) 1,314; 2, Cpl R Osborne (RM) 1,281. RAF Service Rifle: Stage four: 1, F Sgt M Silver (Halton) 527; 2, F Sgt D Vick (Honington) 515. Slessor Cup (SR deliberate): 1, Cpl C Steele-Benny (Cottesmore) 47; 2, Cpl C Franks (Coningsby) 46. Pearce Memorial Trophy (Fire with movement): 1, SAC Carner (Honington) 48; 2, Cpl M Wood (Waddington) 44. Burge Cup (Close combat): 1, Sgt J Proctor (Bruggen) 43; 2, F Sgt M Silver (Halton) 41.

SQUASH

PFARKIRCHEN, Germany: Rottal Open Tournament: Semi-final: P Marshall (Eng) bt B Waterfall (Ger) 15-4, 15-8, 15-6. M Vocelti (Ger) bt M Joam (Ger) 9-15, 15-17, 15-12, 15-11, 15-11. Final: Marshall bt Vocelti 15-5, 15-6, 15-9

TENNIS

NOTTINGHAM: LTA Reebok Tour: Quarter-finals: Men: A Hunt (NZ) bt N Gould (Avon) 6-3, 6-4; C Beecher (Kent) bt V Venkataraghavan (India) 7-5, 6-1. V Snyman (SA) bt R Hanger (Dorset) 6-2, 7-6; J Fox (Lincolnshire) bt N Weal (Hampshire) 7-5, 6-1. Women: C Taylor (Oxfordshire) bt N Payne (Scot) 6-3, 6-2. N Egorova (Russ) bt L Perkins (Durham and Cleveland) 6-0, 6-2; M Marfina (Russ) bt E Jelis (Oxfordshire) 6-3, 6-3; J Lutrova (Russ) bt S Jackson (Cheshire) 6-0, 6-3.
YOULL CUP: Semi-finals: Millfield bt King Edward's, Birmingham 2-0; Sevenoaks bt Repton 2-1. Final: Millfield bt Sevenoaks 2-0

CYCLING 41
Flying start the key to success for Boardman

SPORT

RUGBY UNION 41
Lions given extra incentive by prospect of rare clean sweep

SATURDAY JULY 5 1997

England's tormentor returns to seize initiative in third Test

Warne leads the Australian celebrations after Crawley, caught behind by Healy, becomes the fourth of his five victims at Old Trafford yesterday. Photograph: Dan Chung

Warne casts his spell again

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

OLD TRAFFORD (second day of five): England, with two first-innings wickets in hand, are 74 runs behind Australia

PERHAPS it was the place that inspired him, a pilgrimage to his Mecca, or perhaps it was the fact that the world and his wife had become experts in physical ailments and psychology and pronounced that his career was on the critical list. Something got him going and Shane Warne, when roused, remains a formidable opponent.

He has always possessed that precious ability to transform a game with baffling speed and sleight of hand and he did so yesterday, casting his mesmeric spell at the very time when Australia were in danger of declining towards a potentially decisive second defeat.

At 74 for one, in reply to an evidently inadequate 235, England were contemplating a position of command by the second evening of the third Cornhill Test. Then Warne made a nonsense of strategy and speculation with a spell as devastating as any in an Ashes cuttings book that dates back four years to his unforgettable introductory ball on this same ground.

Seven England wickets went down for 49 runs and Warne's contribution was to take five of them for 19, his first five-wicket return for 16 Tests spanning 19 months. He was helped by a pitch offering turn, sometimes lavish when the ball pitched in the footmarks outside leg stump, but the greatest assistance came from compliant batting.

Whatever theories England have produced to counter the danger of Warne — and they have been hours and weeks in the making — were either forgotten or ineffective. Even bowling of this soaring quality should not paralyse the minds and movements of Test-match players, but successive batsmen departed to strokes of sacrificial ineptitude.

By the time that Mark Ealham and Andy Caddick came together in a defiant ninth-wicket stand that raised 38, Australia were strutting their stuff for the first time on tour. They will not easily be subdued again.

Yet the first half of this riveting if run-starved day had belonged almost exclusively to England. First, they had redeemed the sins of Thursday evening, when they bowled wastefully short, by taking the remaining three Australia wickets for 11 runs.

Steve Waugh had predicted that his eighth-wicket stand with Paul Reiffel could decide the match and he may be right, but England, back on their game, were doubtless content. Darren Gough rediscovered his yorker to flatten Reiffel's off stump, then bowled Waugh off an inside edge with another inswinger of full length.

Waugh's four-hour hundred, ranked even by his own severe self-analysis as his best in Test cricket, exhibited all the virtues of mental resilience and technical merit that England could not match. He also stood in supreme isolation above his own players.

Once Gillespie had been caught behind off Headley, who had dropped a return catch the previous ball, England's initial assignment was to reach lunch unscathed. They failed. Atherton flapping at a pull against McGrath to give Healy a leg-side catch, but by the interval, Mark Butcher and Alec Stewart were proceeding serenely.

There had been only two moments of alarm. One came when Stewart misjudged a second run to square leg so badly that he almost ran out his brother-in-law, and the other arose when Warne's first ball failed only narrowly to emulate the 1993 vintage by spinning viciously out of the rough. Butcher, however, survived this and all else the Australians could bowl at him with impressive calm. He left the ball skilfully and selectively and, as a pitch now dried and paled by the sunshine offered ever less to the seam bowlers, England advanced with assurance. What happened next would have beggared belief had we all not seen Warne do similar things several times over.

Stewart was first to depart, and if his feet were creasebound and his stroke diffident, it was still a fine piece of bowling. Warne, pitching around leg stump, obtained such bounce and turn that it took an outside edge at the top of the bat and was expertly caught by Taylor at slip.

Butcher will be distressed by his dismissal, coming after so much solid graft and only one ball after completing his second successive Test fifty. Bevan, as is his occasional wont, served up a leg-side full toss. It should have gone for four, but Butcher missed it, overbalanced and was smartly stumped.

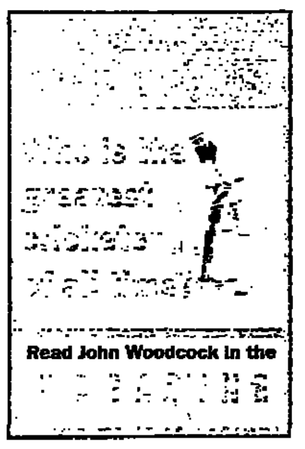
Hussain twice lapped Warne fine for four and the pressure eased, but England could not afford another loss before tea and when Thorpe used his favoured, full-blooded sweep against Warne and was caught at slip off inside edge and pad, the balance had shifted dramatically inside 40 minutes.

The worst was yet to come, for it was clear that the tea interval had done nothing to calm England's rising sense of paranoia, a familiar affliction when Warne is in such a mood. Hussain and Crawley offered tame, hypnotised prods, sacrificial to Warne's leg break. So hard were they trying to open their shoulders, the latest technical ploy impressed upon the England batsmen, that they ended up looking as inept as schoolboys playing French cricket.

Croft, caught in the slipstream of the devastation, heaved McGrath flat-footedly to extra cover and Warne, animated to the point of intimidation, finally won a leg-before decision as Gough propped forward.

Ealham, whose cricket is nothing if not sensible, showed with Caddick that this pitch is far from unplayable. It is, however, turning ever more, and even if England creep close on first innings, Warne awaits them in the second. His blood is up, his googly has begun to work; if he can operate again with men round the bat, Australia should level the series by Monday, at the latest.

Essex humbled, page 41



Read John Woodcock in the

SCOREBOARD FROM OLD TRAFFORD

Australia won toss

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

*M A Taylor c Thorpe b Headley (23min, 20 balls)	2
M T G Elliott c Stewart b Headley (120min, 92 balls, 4 fours)	40
G S Blewett b Gough (18min, 13 balls, 1 four)	8
M E Waugh c Stewart b Ealham (36min, 27 balls, 2 fours)	12
S R Waugh b Gough (240min, 175 balls, 13 fours)	108
M G Bevan c Stewart b Headley (25min, 15 balls, 1 four)	7
†I A Healy c Stewart b Caddick (35min, 20 balls, 1 four)	9
S K Warne c Stewart b Ealham (13min, 7 balls)	3
P R Reiffel b Gough (153min, 84 balls, 1 four)	31
J N Gillespie c Stewart b Headley (13min, 8 balls)	0
G D McGrath not out (4min, 2 balls)	0
Extras (b 8, lb 4, nb 3)	15
Total (77.3 overs, 324min)	235

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9 (Elliott 7), 2-22 (Elliott 12), 3-42 (Elliott 19), 4-55 (S R Waugh 22), 5-113 (S R Waugh 35), 6-150 (S R Waugh 63), 7-160 (S R Waugh 69), 8-230 (S R Waugh 103), 9-235 (Gillespie 0).

BOWLING: Gough 21-7-52-3 (nb 2, 7 fours; 8-5-10-1, 6-0-27-0, 3-1-9-0, 4-1-6-2). Headley 27.3-4-72-4 (nb 1, 4 fours; 8-1-18-1, 10-1-30-2, 5-2-19-0, 4.3-0-5-1). Caddick 14-2-52-1 (nb 1, 5 fours; 5-1-13-0, 9-1-39-1). Ealham 11-2-34-2 (nb 1, 6 fours; 4-0-22-1, 5-1-11-1, 2-1-1-0). Croft 4-0-13-0 (1 four; 2-0-6-0, 2-0-7-0).

ENGLAND: First Innings

M A Butcher st Healy b Bevan (179min, 140 balls, 5 fours)	51
*M A Atherton c Healy b McGrath (37min, 29 balls)	5
†A J Stewart c Taylor b Warne (117min, 79 balls, 2 fours)	30
N Hussain c Healy b Warne (46min, 23 balls, 2 fours)	13
G P Thorpe c Taylor b Warne (5min, 7 balls)	3
J P Crawley c Healy b Warne (30min, 26 balls, 1 four)	4
M A Ealham not out (120min, 89 balls, 3 fours)	23
R D B Croft c S R Waugh b McGrath (19min, 23 balls, 1 four)	7
D Gough lbw b Warne (11min, 15 balls)	1
A R Caddick not out (73min, 53 balls)	15
Extras (b 4, lb 3, nb 2)	9
Total (8 wkts, 81 overs, 324min)	161

D W Headley to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8 (Butcher 2), 2-74 (Butcher 37), 3-94 (Hussain 6), 4-101 (Hussain 10), 5-110 (Crawley 4), 6-111 (Ealham 1), 7-122 (Ealham 2), 8-123 (Ealham 2).

BOWLING: McGrath 22-8-39-2 (4 fours; 8-3-15-1, 3-1-6-0, 3-0-7-0, 8-4-11-1). Reiffel 9-3-14-0 (nb 2; 6-2-10-0, 3-1-4-0). Warne 28-12-48-5 (5 fours; 3-1-10-0, 25-11-38-5). Gillespie 14-3-39-0 (4 fours; 10-1-27-0, 4-2-12-0). Bevan 8-3-14-1 (1 four; 3-0-12-1, 5-3-2-0).

SCORING NOTES: Second day: Lunch: 37-1 (18 overs, 76min; Butcher 17, Stewart 13). Tea: 110-4 (48 overs, 196min; Hussain 13, Crawley 4).

Umpires: G Sharp and S Venkataraghavan (India). Third umpire: J H Hampshire. Match referee: R S Madugalle (Sri Lanka).

SERIES DETAILS: First (Edgbaston): England won by nine wickets. Second (Lord's): Match drawn. To come: Fourth (Headingley): July 24-28. Fifth (Trent Bridge): August 7-11; Sixth (The Oval): August 21-25.

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Bobby from Brisbane sees Ashes set ablaze

Simon Wilde on how the mood of euphoria at Old Trafford was shattered by one magical spell

An hour after lunch at Old Trafford yesterday, a special atmosphere had built up in the ground, though it was one that has been seen in several British sporting arenas this summer. The Union Flag was being waved, so too the flag of St George, the jazz bands played with extra verve and people — English people — were singing, in a manner Roger Knight would approve of, about the Ashes "coming home". Even the sun was out, for goodness sake.

The passage of play since the interval had been tense, a grim tussle for supremacy that England appeared, finally, to have won. Butcher and Stewart were breaking free: Stewart off-drove Gillespie for four, Butcher fiercely pulled him through mid-wicket.

There was a feeling that — as Frederick Spofforth, the great Australia bowler, declared to his teammates before they denied England the 85 runs that they needed for victory in the match that gave birth to the Ashes in 1882 — "this thing can be done". This time, England really could regain the urn.

The demise of Henman at Wimbledon was just a blip on Britain's sporting graph; the way Alan Crompton, the Australia tour manager, had talked on the radio the previous evening about the pitch *"crumbling" mere propaganda.* Warne's first ball may have produced an uncomfortable echo of the past, but, when all is said and done, it was pitched unthreateningly short.

Yet the sun's emergence was not the cue for English euphoria but Australian assertion. The warmth, and a zephyr that dried and hardened the pitch, was working its magic for Warne — Michael Atherton said before the match that the leg spinner would be hoping for "five days of sun" — and he promptly *produced a snorter to remove Stewart.* Butcher and Thorpe quickly followed and, when the players came in at tea, Crawley and Hussain looked pensive under their helmets and the Australians returned to concerted applause from their colleagues.

A few feet away in the pavilion bar, Australia supporters, who had flown halfway round the world to watch their team, were cock-a-hoop. "This is the first sunshine we've had since we got here five weeks ago and only the second day without rain," said Bobby, a Queenslander with two pints in his hand. "This is some place. In Brisbane, you get up and you know there will be blue skies outside."

But he had never had any doubt about Warne. "He was always going to come good and today is the day. *That said, some of the English shots* were crud. This day will be the turning point of the tour."

One of Bobby's friends from home refused to come on the trip because he felt it would be boring to watch England being trounced again and did not rate some of the Australian players either. "He thought he'd rather save his money." Bobby and the mate that he brought with him instead paid for their trip with a big win at a casino, though they planned to come anyway. When they have not been watching the cricket or the rain, they have been drinking beer and chasing girls. "We've not had much luck in that area, unfortunately." Maybe the sunshine will help in that direction, too.

After tea, English wickets continued to go down, "like a pack of cards" in the words of David Lloyd. As each wicket fell, the crowd remained seated and silent, save for sparse bunches of green-hats, who leaped up and down. Late in the day, Ealham and Caddick gave the home supporters something to cheer about, but Warne's parting words rang in the ears: "You'll be seeing the best of us from now on."

Sampras has fourth title in his sights

By Julian Muscat, Tennis Correspondent

PETE SAMPRAS strode purposefully towards a fourth Wimbledon title yesterday when he swept aside Todd Woodbridge, of Australia, in straight sets. Sampras was anxious to close out the match on another day punctuated by rain. He then made his excuses, leaving Cedric Pioline and Michael Stich jousting for the dubious honour of facing him tomorrow.

The honour is dubious because Sampras, who came through 6-2, 6-1, 7-6, touched sublime heights against an opponent who strived hard to stay with the world No 1. It made no difference. Sampras has refined the art of winning within himself, breaking out of a canter for the third-set tiebreak. He breezed away with that, too, drawing eulogies from Woodbridge in the postmatch analysis.

"Today I played one of the greatest tennis players, playing great," Woodbridge reflected. "It was a pleasure to be out there playing against him. Not many people get to appreciate how good a player he is when they are not on court with him. At least I got to see that side of it."

Sampras, whose two previous Wimbledon encounters with Woodbridge saw them share the honours, might have expected a tougher examination. Woodbridge, for his part, felt he had done all he could. "There were winners flying about all over the place," he said. "I thought I played quite well and I think he has a pretty *good chance to win this title* again."

Should Sampras prevail tomorrow, he will move up to fourth place, with as many triumphs, in the all-time list of men's champions at Wimbledon. With all due respect to Stich and Pioline, it is hard to envisage what can stop him. Sampras, seeded No 1 for the fourth consecutive year, does not have an apparent weakness.

Admittedly, he struggled against Petr Korda in the fourth round, losing consecutive tie-breaks before clinching the deciding set. One senses that, if he is to lose these championships, it will be through his own *doing*; he cannot surely be outplayed tomorrow.

Indeed, when Woodbridge broke him for the only time in the match in the third set, it ended a run of 96 consecutive winning service games since his skirmish in the opening round with Mikael Tillström, of Sweden. Yesterday, he made 62 per cent of his first services — and accrued no double faults at all.

Evidence abounded of his superior class. In the first set, he faltered to 0-40 before producing three aces and two more thunderous services that Woodbridge reached only with the frame of his outstretched racket. "I don't remember a Wimbledon when I have served as well as I have this year," Sampras said.

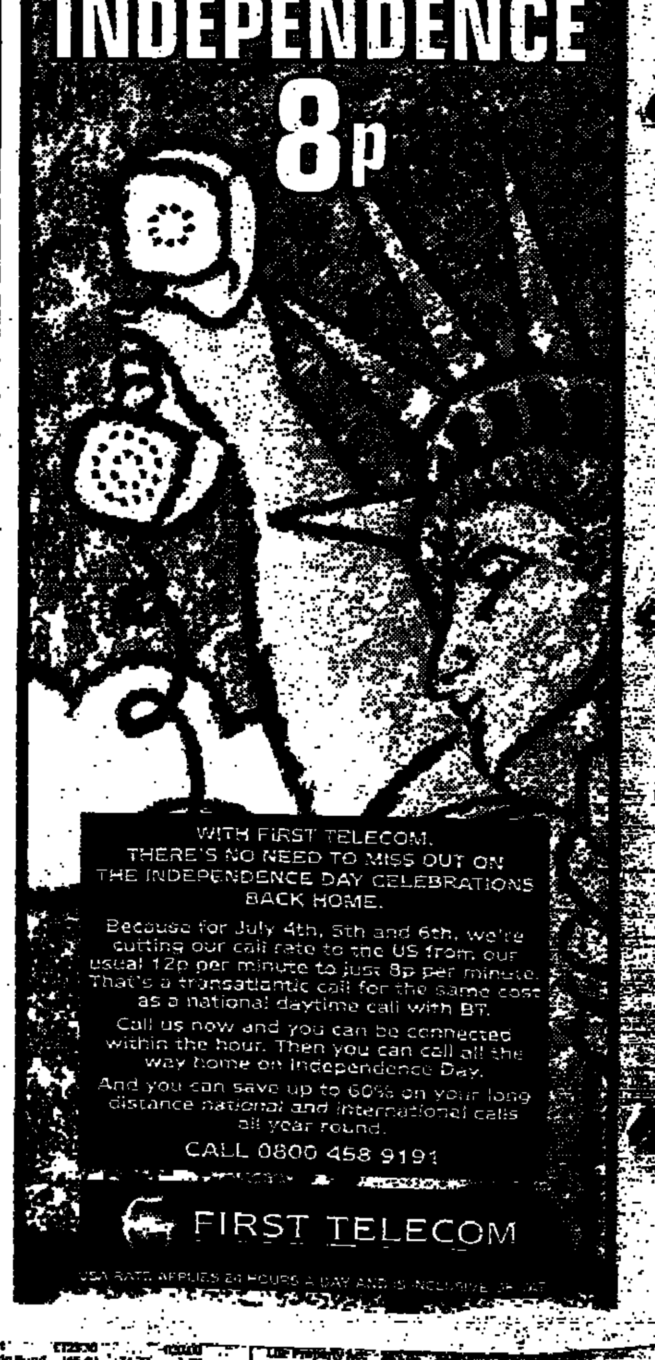
He will also have enjoyed Woodbridge's propensity to rally from the baseline. It allowed Sampras the opportunity to assess the pace of the Centre Court — not that he required the practice, having played five matches in as many days.

Sampras's demeanour here comes in total contrast to the man who succumbed without much fuss in the Stella Artois tournament at Queen's Club last month. On that occasion, Sampras seemed almost disinterested during his defeat by Jonas Bjorkman, of Sweden. The explanation rests entirely with Wimbledon's reputation among players. Its silverware is the most sought after — and Sampras has learnt to save himeslf for the big occasion.

"The major tournaments are what it is all about for me," he said. "I have a chance on Sunday to get another one. I am very motivated and ready to play. I am very confident on grass. I have grown to love it. You can't play any careless tennis. I don't mind who I play in the final; either way, I feel like I'm playing well." Those words make an ominous warning.

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS WIMBLEDON

Results 46
Lynne Truss 46
Novotna's mission 46



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Film boost threatened by skills shortage

Tax breaks may increase British production but who will provide the know-how? Dalya Alberge reports

LEADING film-makers expressed concern yesterday about the shortage of technicians to work on the extra films expected to be made after the boost to the industry from tax incentives announced in the Budget.

Sir David Puttnam, whose films include *Chariots of Fire*, and David Green, who made the television documentaries *Hollywood Women*, called for the industry to invest in training programmes.

"I'm really struggling to find people at every level of the film business," Mr Green said. "There is a finite number of good technicians."

Sir David called on the industry to do something about increasing the "talent pool". He said that unless action was taken the health of the British film industry would be seriously harmed.

Mr Green spoke of a shortage of support staff at every level, including camera-operators, cinematographers, production managers and assistant directors. Even specialist accountants — those who understand the nature of the feature film as a one-off project — are hard to come by.

Green: struggling to find the right people

Britain was famous for the quality of its technicians but the best were being lured away by Hollywood, and by big-budget films being made in Britain by overseas producers. They could afford huge wages that low-budget films could never compete with. He noted that America had never been stronger: more American producers were making films in Britain than ever before.

There has already been the pressure of a great increase in indigenous films. Last year, Britain made 100, almost doubling the figure of ten years ago. As recently as 1980, the total was just 38. At the peak of the industry, 1955 — the era of the Ealing comedies such as *The Ladykillers* — 150 films were British-made.

Roy Lockett, deputy general secretary of Bectu, the technicians' union, said: "There is a growing skills crisis." He called for a massive investment in training.

Mr Lockett noted that many of the people once employed in broadcasting had become freelance, because of cost-cutting measures. The BBC was offering far less in-house training owing to a pressure on budgets. Also, budget-cuts on feature films meant that fewer assistants were being employed. That used to be a significant way for people to learn the trade. The industry, he said, must compensate for such changes. "There is clear evidence of shortages. The crucial areas are training for new entrants and new technology."

At the low end, technicians are prepared to accept deferred payments; those at the top end can name their price. Finding technicians is not the only problem. Film-makers have long been concerned about the celluloid mountain. Barely half the films made in Britain get a theatrical release because the cinemas are booked up with blockbusters from American studios which own the multiplexes.

Despite his concerns and criticisms, Mr Green welcomes the tax incentives. It will encourage the production of arthouse films such as his recent *House of America*, to be released in October, "which wouldn't have been made without lottery money because arthouse films are not easy to finance."

Mr Green called on the industry to respond to the skill shortages, while acknowledging that there were "no quick solutions or easy answers".

DENZIL McNEELANCE

Michael Bray, left, and Billy Hurman, right, on the set of their comedy *Sea Change* with Maryam d'Abo and Sean Chapman

Men with no name lure a Bond girl

By Dalya Alberge

PERSEVERANCE has paid off for two men who struggled for 4½ years to get their film script taken up by a production company.

Billy Hurman and Michael Bray would not take no for an answer when 30 British producers turned them down. Just as they were running out of companies to approach they found a producer prepared to invest £2 million.

Shooting began this week on *Sea Change*, a romantic comedy about a couple who try to balance high-powered careers with having a relationship. They managed to persuade Maryam d'Abo, a former Bond girl whose films include *The Living Daylights*, *The Browning Version* and *Out of Africa*, to take the lead role, and a cut in her usual fee. The film is being made in London and Spain.

Gary Smith, chief executive of Winchester Multi-Media, whose most recent successes include *Shooting Fish*, said he was grabbed immediately by the script: "It's a *tremendous* story — very relevant for the world in the 1990s."

He felt that audiences would relate to "a guy who's very successful, spends a lot of time doing deals, has a girlfriend he decides to marry and gets his secretary to buy the ring. She turns him down — the first time he's been turned down — she wants him to be more romantic. The sea change is the whole change he wants to go through."

The film has already been sold to six countries, including Germany and Spain, and will be promoted at the Milan Film Festival. Leading fashion designers, including Catherine Walker and Margaret Howell, provided the costumes.

Mr Hurman, 40, made ends meet by working in marketing for various publications after graduating from Exeter University, where he studied economics. He wrote the script in a dilapidated two-bedroom flat in Shepherd's Bush. Mr Bray, who has acting experience, is directing the film.

Mr Hurman said they found that people were obsessed with whether "you're a name in your field" and although production companies were keen on a low budget they wanted stars among the cast.

"Why haven't you got Hugh Grant?" they would ask him.

"Some were incredibly supportive and some incredibly dismissive. There were an awful lot of time wasters. It was a question of keeping going. You have to believe in what you're doing."

Whenever he reached the point of giving up, he would ask himself: "What are the alternatives? All I've ever wanted to do was get into film production."

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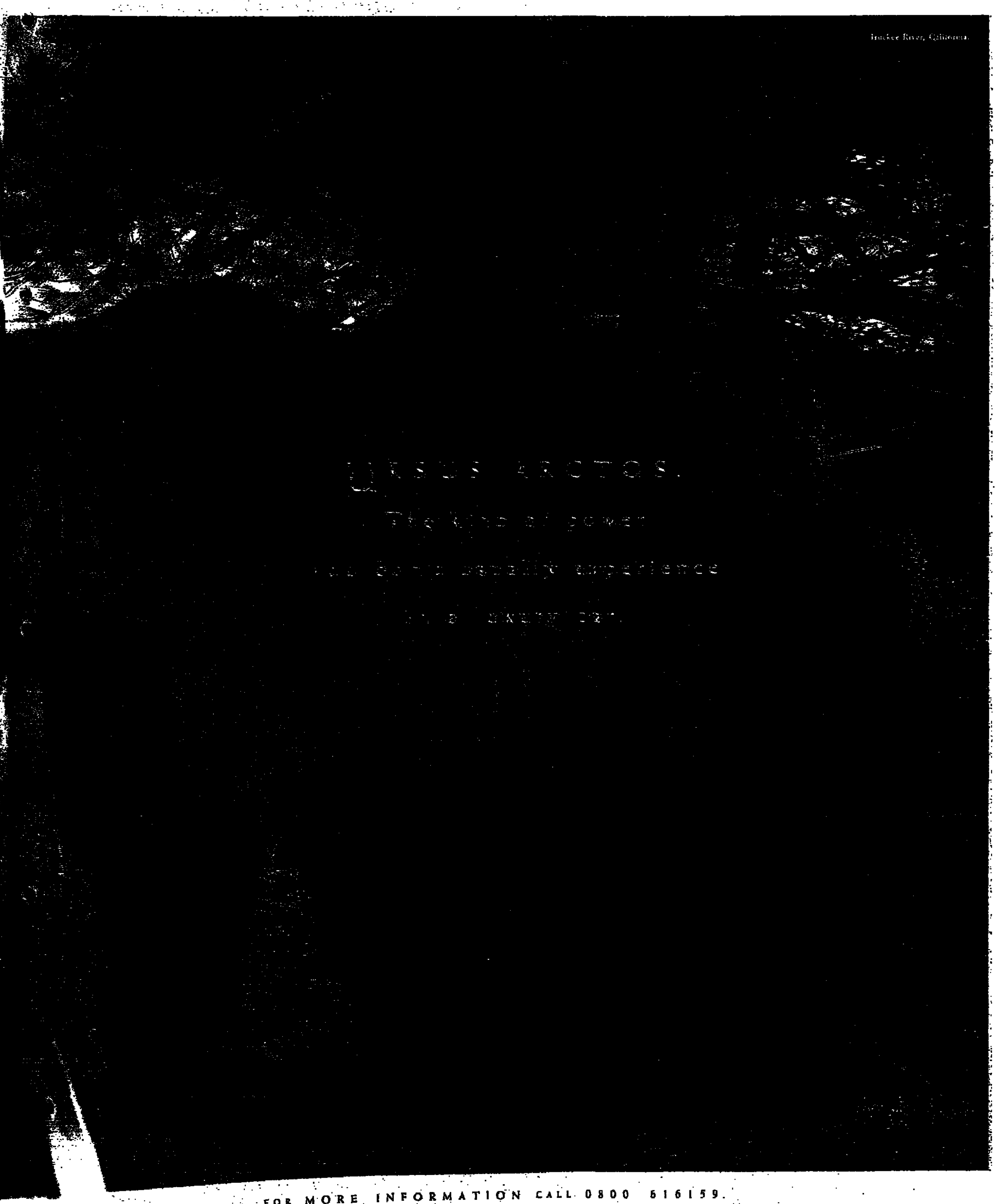

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ALLIANCE LEICESTER

Graves of 9,000 Stalin victims found

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW

A GROUP of Russian amateur historians has claimed to have uncovered three mass grave sites in northern Russia where more than 9,000 victims of Stalin's purges are believed to be buried.

In what must rank as one of the most grisly discoveries of post-Communist Russia, a party searching in Russia's Karelia region said that they had located the graves on a one-hectare site, about 250 miles north of St Petersburg.

The area was one of the first main prison colonies opened under Stalin, when hundreds of thousands of political prisoners were used as slave labour to build the White Sea canal, an attempt to link the Baltic and White Seas.

The group, which discovered the 9,111 corpses with the help of the local authorities from the town of Medvezhyegorsk near the border with Finland, held a memorial service for the victims on Wednesday. Reports said that they had all been shot in October and November 1937 by the NKVD, the secret police.

Arseni Roginsky, a member of Memorial, an organisation dedicated to remembering the millions who perished under Communist rule, said the bodies of those found in the graves were the victims of the Stalin purges, then at their height in the Soviet Union.

In August 1937 a directive was issued by the secret police ordering its officers running camps across Russia to submit lists of prisoners who continued to conduct anti-state agitation in the gulag. Once the lists, containing the names of tens of thousands of prisoners, were processed, the execution order was approved by a three-man "troika" panel. In only rare circumstances were the death sentences overturned.

"In a sense these people were punished twice," Mr Roginsky said. "First, they were arrested and sent to slave labour camps. Then they were taken away and shot, in whatever manner the local NKVD thought fit."

Although it is still too early to know for certain who is buried in the graves, it is assumed most of the victims were intellectuals from Moscow and St Petersburg.

However, writers and artists were by no means the only victims of the hysterical paranoia gripping the Soviet Union. At the time Stalin was at the peak of his bloody rule, and his purge was directed mainly at fellow Communist Party members, senior army officers, or anyone unlucky enough to be denounced during an interrogation.

Conventional theory has it that the purge was part of a planned intensification of terror, orchestrated by Stalin to consolidate his power. Revisionists, however, argue that it was the result of a power struggle within the Kremlin, where radicals, such as Vyacheslav Molotov and Lazar Kaganovich, convinced Stalin that strict measures needed to be introduced to stamp out sabotage and subversion, which could lead to a counter-revolution.

The best estimate for the size of Stalin's crimes was given two years ago by Dmitri Volkogonov, the late Russian historian, who said that from 1929 to 1953 21.5 million Soviet citizens were arrested.

"Of the 21.5 million, one third were shot right away, one third died after a time and a mere one third returned home after the 20th Communist Party Congress condemned Stalinist repression," he said. "Those who did return were of poor health and often died soon after."

PICTORIAL PRESS

Revisionist historians believe Molotov actively encouraged Stalin to order the purges of the 1930s

Clinton fumbles Brown's slick juggling act on the budget

AMERICAN AGENDA
BRONWEN MADDOX

In Britain, it takes the Chancellor an hour to unveil the budget; in the United States, it takes the White House and Congress ten months to hammer out a deal. That aside, the budget Gordon Brown presented to the Commons on Wednesday is remarkably similar to the one which enters its congressional endgame in Washington next week. The main difference is that Mr Brown's version is far more likely to achieve its goals.

As the Clinton Administration trumpeted at the recent "G8" summit in Denver, America and Britain have the same enviable recent record of steady economic growth with low unemployment and low inflation. They share some of the same problems, including the risk that inflation will resume, the pressure that an ageing population will put on government spending, and long-term unemployment.

It was not surprising, then, that elements of the themes in Mr Brown's budget have occupied Washington for months, such as welfare-to-work schemes, and curbs on government spending and deficits. Nor, given the centrist philosophy which brought both Tony Blair to power and Bill Clinton to a second term, is it surprising that both budgets try to spare the middle class the pain of those measures. But while Mr Brown's version has met with qualified approval, the final American budget is likely to please neither Republicans nor Democrats, nor to achieve its stated aims.

That is not what White House rhetoric would have you believe. President Clinton has hailed the five-year budget plan as "historic" for its aim of balancing the budget by 2002. Mr Clinton does not bear full responsibility for the final budget. The version he proposed early this year has been hugely amended on its separate passages through both houses of Congress. The painful ritual of reconciling the Senate and House of Representatives versions, which begins next week, will insert more changes.

Whatever version emerges, it will represent significant concessions by Mr Clinton to the Republicans. The two congressional versions and Mr Clinton's latest offer provide for net tax cuts of between $55 billion (£32 billion) and $75 billion over the five years. These cuts would be the largest that taxpayers have received in 16 years.

Mr Clinton has also largely surrendered to the Republican view of how these cuts should be distributed. According to the Treasury, both House and Senate Bills would direct about two thirds of the cuts to the richest 20 per cent of American families, and just 13 per cent to the bottom 60 per cent.

Politically, Mr Clinton's concessions may prove a masterstroke. Although he has outraged liberals in his party, he has stolen the Republicans' best clothes. Tax cuts, fiscal prudence, defence spending — traditionally Republicans' most powerful weapons — are excised from debate.

In economic terms, Mr Clinton's measures are unimpressive. While the deficit may be squeezed to nothing in 2002, it is set to gape open afterwards as spending on entitlements rises while the tax cuts to which he has just consented kick in.

Mr Clinton has, in particular, shied away from tackling the problems of Medicare, the healthcare programme for the elderly that is set to go bust early next century, or the costs of social security, which will swell after 2010 as baby-boomers retire.

In Britain, Mr Brown has not escaped criticism entirely, for sparing middle-class households and doing little to restrain consumption, while hitting businesses hard in a manner unlikely to encourage investment. But he did enough this week for new Labour to continue to be given the benefit of the doubt on its claim to fiscal probity.

Part of the difference between the two budgets can be attributed to the powers enjoyed by Mr Blair's Government, with its 179-seat majority: it is capable of putting a coherent plan into practice. But the check which a Republican Congress provides on a Democratic President does not absolve Mr Clinton from the weaknesses of the budget he is likely to sign next month. The verdict of the history books is likely to be that his cherished balanced budget deal is stronger on symbol than content.

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Montserrat youngsters turn to sex and drink in despair

FROM TOM RHODES IN MONTSERRAT

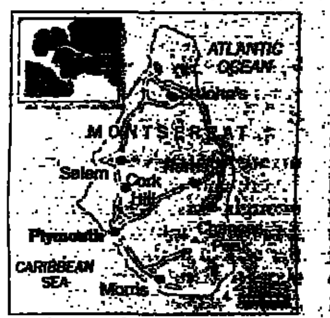
MANY of the young people of Montserrat, the Caribbean island threatened with destruction by its turbulent Chances Peak volcano, have found solace in alcohol and casual sex as they await their fate.

Clifford Farrell, a fireman and rescue worker in what traditionally has been a staunchly religious British colony, is one of many who has sent young families to Britain in search of a better life. "A lot of the young people swear and start fights," he said. "Young girls are getting pregnant and a lot of people are permanently drunk on rum. It is not the sort of environment that I want for my family."

Some teenage girls have turned to prostitution at weekends to earn extra money, and rapes have been reported.

At the Seventh Day Adventist Shelter in Salem, David Farrell, a former building worker, was close to despair. "You go berserk sometimes, searching all day for work and coming back empty-handed," he said. "And then you see girls as young as 13 going out to look for custom just for a few dollars. I think the British Government needs to take us all out of here."

Islanders are already leaving Montserrat in droves. Half the colony's nurses announced this week that the volcano had become too dangerous and said that they were leaving for Britain.



Having complained for months about poor conditions at the makeshift hospital in St John's, the deaths of as many as 23 people in devastating lava flows last week proved the final straw.

"It is no longer safe for ourselves, our families and the population to live in Montserrat," said 31 of the 50 nurses in a public letter requesting severance package arrangements from the local authorities.

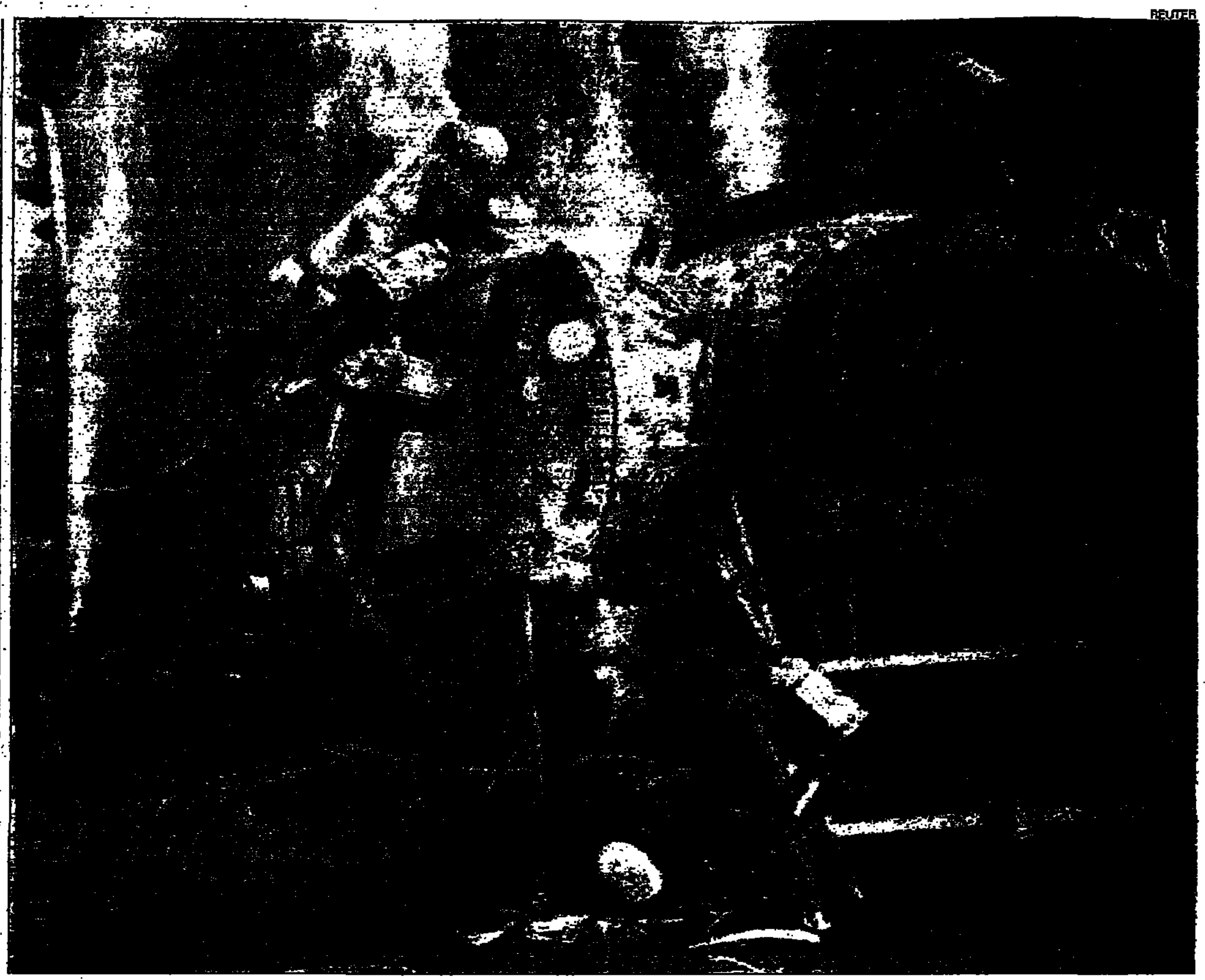
Dozens of other government workers have taken a two-year leave of absence from their jobs to go to Britain. Bertrand Osborne, the island's Chief Minister, said he hoped the Government would react quickly to the crisis after Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean, the junior Foreign Office Minister, reported back to London on her visit to Montserrat this week.

"Without instant results, I think we will have a problem unless we can assure the people of Montserrat that there is hope of proper employment, housing and a hospital," he said. "I am sure that once they realise we are serious about building the infrastructure in the north, they will stay."

But with the fabric of society in steep decline and little sign that the volcano will cease its activity, Whitehall will have to act very quickly indeed if one of Britain's few remaining dependent territories is to be saved.

As Constable Stanford Kelly, of the Montserrat Police Force, put it: "One day this might come to an end and this island will go back to what it once was, but I think it is lost for my generation."

REUTER



Mir rescue in deep water

Space engineers at Russia's Star City perform tests 40ft underwater on a replica of the damaged Mir space station yesterday after vital repairs to the crippled craft were postponed to give its crew an extra week of training. The engineers were practising the crew's tricky repair job. Russian flight controllers have been feverishly looking for the best way to carry out the repair work on the damaged Spektr module, which was punctured in a collision with a cargo ship on June 25. The crew — including the British-born astronaut Michael Foale — needs time to get familiar with repair equipment being sent to Mir on a cargo ship that blasts off today. Mir has been reduced to half-power since the collision and has problems with its alignment system. The repair effort will involve Mir's commander, Vasily Tsibliyev, going into the damaged module to re-connect cables from the solar batteries and run them back through a new, custom-designed hatch. "Such work never has been done before," said Viktor Ren, an official with the Cosmonauts' Training Centre at Star City, just north of Moscow. Mr Ren organised yesterday's practice session in diving suits. "It can be accomplished, but it's going to be real tough," he said. (*AP*)

Netanyahu flies into storm over luxury plane plan

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE Israeli Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, and his family were yesterday plunged into a political row over plans to spend more than £600,000 refurbishing the Jewish state's equivalent of US Air Force One.

The costly refit is believed by Israeli officials to have been influenced by Mr Netanyahu's wife, Sara, who has been at the centre of a number of personal scandals since he came to power and decided to give her a more prominent public role than those of previous Prime Ministers' wives.

According to the respected Tel Aviv daily *Haaretz*, plans are under way to fit the traditionally austere plane used by the Prime Minister and President Weizman with a playroom for the Netanyahus' two children and a larger, more luxurious bedroom.

The popular President, who was first informed of the renovations via the Israeli media, was swift to denounce them as unnecessary and over-expensive. An Israeli source said that Mr Weizman was angry at not being consulted and that he feared that he was being used as "cover" for improvements being done half in his name that he knew nothing about.

The costly renovations were reported to include the building-in of a double bed, bathroom and dressing table for Mrs Netanyahu. Israel's Air Force One is one of the world's least ostentatious official planes with a single bed for the most important passenger and bunks for his officials.

☐ **Crisis deepens:** The security crisis between Israel and the Palestinians sparked by posters depicting the Prophet Muhammad as a pig deepened yesterday with 29 Palestinians wounded in the West Bank city of Hebron in fierce riots staged in defiance of efforts by supporters of Yassir Arafat to halt them.

WORLD SUMMARY

'Amnesty' children revealed

Hong Kong: Hundreds of families rushed yesterday to surrender children smuggled in from China after an announcement that the illegal immigrants could stay while the background of their parents was checked.

The parents interpreted the ruling as an amnesty. While all residents' children may, under the Basic Law, now live in the territory, they must apply in mainland China and face a wait that could be years. *(Reuter)*

Inquiry falters

Paris: A court yesterday dropped a corruption inquiry into Jean Tiberi, the Gaullist Mayor of Paris, and his wife, because investigators had followed incorrect legal procedures (Ben Macintyre writes).

In Marseilles, Bernard Tapie, the tycoon jailed for bribery, was given another 18 months for embezzling the *Olympique football club.*

Bomb suspect

Paris: Boualem Bensaid, an Algerian, is being formally investigated on suspicion of helping to organise the 1995 bomb attack on a Paris Métro train that killed eight people, judges told relatives of the victims. They said that Mr Bensaid was the first suspect officially to be targeted in the investigation. *(Reuter)*

War aide dies

Johannesburg: General Friedrich Wilhem von Mellenthin, former military intelligence chief for Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, has died in Johannesburg, aged 92. Born in Breslau, he emigrated in 1950 and led Lufthansa's South Africa operations from 1961 to 1969. *(AFP)*

Lost in transit

Canberra: Fifteen Sri Lankan boat people spent three days wandering lost in bushland after being dropped on Australia's remote western coast by a Taiwanese fishing boat and told they could find a bus or train to the nearest civilisation. *(Reuter)*

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German heavyweights prepare to sink their teeth into euro fight

Schröder: far ahead of Kohl in opinion polls

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BONN

BURLY Gerhard Schröder is a political heavyweigh: itching to climb into the ring with Helmut Kohl. Although the Social Democrat is unlikely to bite off the German leader's ear — he can still find a few nice things to say about the Chancellor — there will soon be some bare-knuckle punching on the euro.

There is a broad ragamuffin coalition of German interests in favour of delaying economic and monetary union. They include members of the Bundesbank board, retired but still influential central bankers, Edmund Stoiber, the Bavarian Prime Minister, and his conservative supporters, businessmen who are willing to take out full-page advertisements "in defence of the mark", and Social Democrats such as Herr Schröder.

Strange bedfellows? "You don't always have to disagree with your opponents," booms Herr Schröder, 53. "Not everything the opposing camp says is false, and there can be common ground on issues like this."

Herr Schröder, Prime Minister of Lower Saxony, has to win regional elections next March if he is to gain his party's full backing as official challenger to Herr Kohl. The general election will be held in September 1998, after the decisions will have been made on who should take part in monetary union and whether it should start on schedule.

That means the battle for the euro has to be fought now rather than in the election campaign. "I don't believe that the euro will be the decisive element in the election. It will play a role but, if the decisions are made in the spring of 1998, then no new government will be able to change the course of events."

The new government — Herr Schröder believes a Social Democratic-Green coalition is the most probable alignment — will be faced with established facts on EMU. "Those of us who pointed early enough to the risks of monetary union will have the edge over those who have been presenting monetary union as a risk-free enterprise".

But, if it seems that EMU is going hopelessly astray — if the public deficit target of 3 per cent of gross domestic product is not met — then a delay strategy should be implemented to restore popular trust in the euro. "I am in favour of a common currency, but the conditions for its introduction have to be right," Herr Schröder says.

"From an economic point of view we can argue about whether our country really should meet the 3 per cent target precisely. But seen politically it is quite different. Germans have been told that stability depends on exact fulfilment of the criteria on budget deficit and the debt. The Germans believed it — and now they are being told [that] we did not mean it quite so precisely. That stirs suspicion, undermines the legitimacy of the whole move."

Edmund Stoiber in Bavaria has been making similar pronouncements. This week Herr Kohl told him: "Three per cent, or 3.0 per cent — that is not my problem." This sphinx-like statement was interpreted as meaning that Herr Kohl has ruled out a fudge. In fact, it merely demonstrated the Chancellor's legendary vagueness about economics. The French were yesterday fuming about his renewed commitment to the 3 per cent target, saying Germany's "pocket calculator approach" to the single currency could lead to the exclusion of France.

The next leader of Germany has to balance the need to modernise the country with the desire for social justice. Is Herr Schröder that man? "You are not going to get an answer from me, not yet. There are times when I have to present facts and let others draw conclusions."

The latest opinion polls show that, if the Chancellor were chosen by direct ballot, Herr Schröder would win about 60 per cent of the vote while Herr Kohl would be lucky to pick up more than 30 per cent.

Alliance goal speeds pace of East's reform

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE promise of Nato membership has been the biggest single spur for change in Eastern Europe.

The prospect of joining the alliance they were once obliged to regard as the enemy has forced a radical reorganisation of the former Warsaw Pact countries' military commands, secured civilian control of their armies and pushed their governments into negotiating treaties to end ethnic and border conflicts.

For the three front-runners, Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic, Nato membership is seen not only as a vital security umbrella: it is also regarded as an endorsement by the West of their democratic and market reforms since the collapse of communism and a symbolic reintegration into the mainstream of European culture and identity.

For Romania and Slovenia, two aspirant members which seem likely to be disappointed in Madrid on Tuesday, Nato

NATO
EXPANDS

membership has for the past year become virtually a national crusade. Every party, every politician and every shade of opinion has focused on the urgency of not being left out of the first wave. And if, as now seems inevitable, neither is admitted, the reaction in both could be explosive: frustration and anger could destabilise the young democracies, fan ethnic tensions and call into question recent agreements with neighbours.

The country that has been most insistent on membership has been Poland. For the Poles, Nato is not only a long-term guarantee that their independence will never again be threatened: it is also an assertion of their Roman Catholic, Western-leaning culture and their difference from the Orthodox East. Poland is by far the largest of the new members, with armed forces totalling 250,000. For the past five years the forces have been reorganised in an attempt to remove all traces of the old integration into the East and take advantage of joint exercises with the West.

Hungary, also with long memories of Soviet invasion and intervention, sees Nato as a bulwark against any revived Russian expansionism. Membership, however, necessitates a big expansion because Hungarian forces number only 60,000 men. Soviet-era officers have been replaced, staff structures reformed, training reshaped and more than 700 officers have graduated from Western military academies.

Hungary plans to set up a 2,000-man professional force for rapid deployment on Nato missions by 1999, and the Defence Ministry is talking about eliminating conscription by 2010. The defence budget is set to rise sharply. The forces still rely heavily on Russian equipment, however, and large sums will be needed to pay for new Western weapons. Americans arms salesmen are touting for business.

The cost of Nato is not popular and Hungarians are probably less enthusiastic than their neighbours about their new military alliance. The Czechs, too, have been sceptical about the benefits of membership, athough the defence establishment sees opportunities for the country's arms industry. There has been little national debate and the Government has presented membership virtually as a *fait accompli*.

The Czechs, now separated from Russia by Slovakia and Ukraine, see no immediate threat from Moscow and probably would have preferred European Union membership first because their free-market economy is closely tied to the West's.

Squabbles could leave summit the loser

PRESIDENT CLINTON, Tony Blair and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, are expected to unite to apply maximum pressure on fellow Nato members to agree to an enlargement programme of only three countries in the first wave when they meet on Tuesday (Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent, writes).

Despite intensive negotiations, there is still no consensus on how many to invite for accession talks. Some Nato members are still pushing for four or five. Senior Nato diplomats are resigned to there being no agreement before Tuesday and to President Chirac wanting to argue Romania's case at the summit.

A few months ago it was hoped that there would be a decision — with the chosen countries told — well before Madrid. Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary are on the confirmed list, but France is among those Nato members reluctant to give up the case for including Romania and Slovenia.

One Nato source said, if the argument is not resolved on Tuesday, the summit will be a failure — a huge setback for an organisation desperately trying to demonstrate that it has changed dramatically since the Cold War ended.

La Lollo's ageless glamour draws breathless praise

'Carnal, earthy, vital, vibrant' at 70

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

EPA

Signora Lollobrigida, the toast of Italy yesterday on her 70th birthday, and still a symbol of Latin beauty

GINA LOLLOBRIGIDA, the legendary star of Italian cinema, yesterday celebrated her 70th birthday by declaring that she had buried her lifelong feud with her rival, Sophia Loren — more or less. She also insisted that, although she had been "in love" with Fidel Castro, the Cuban dictator, their relationship had been "Platonic".

The Italian media pulled out all the adjectives they could think of to celebrate La Lollo's birthday. "A symbol of Latin beauty," said *Il Messaggero*, "opulent, bewitching, carnal, earthy, vital, vibrant, elegant, imperial, an ambassadress of Italian glamour to the world", before grinding to a breathless halt.

Signora Lollobrigida, on the other hand, took it all calmly, observing that at her age every day was a celebration. In any case, "cinema is a team effort," she told *La Stampa*. "That is why I took up photography, painting and sculpture — they give you more opportunity to express your inner self".

But for most people the enduring image of La Lollo is of her standing in a fetching circus outfit next to a semi-naked Burt Lancaster in *Trapeze* (1956), or as the wide-eyed peasant girl in a low-cut dress in *Bread, Love and Dreams* (1953), which was shown on Italian television yesterday in tribute. "She still has the most celebrated décolletée of the century," said *Il Messaggero*.

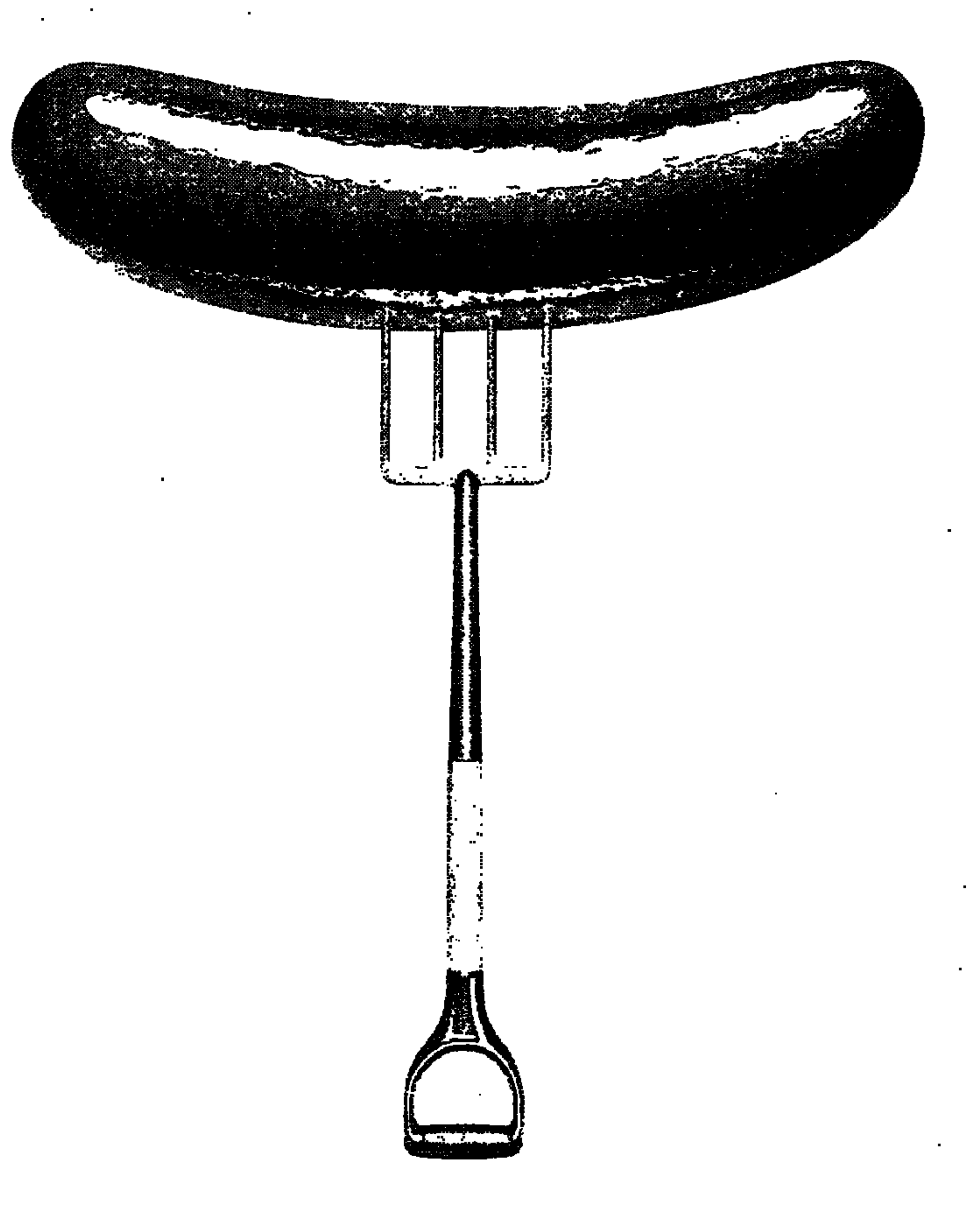
"I do feel sorry for those poor girls who have silicone implants," observed Signora Lollobrigida. "But if they have a complex and surgery helps, good luck to them."

A carpenter's daughter, she was a beauty contest model before making her screen debut in 1946, later making many films with director Vittorio De Sica. Her later Hollywdood career included successes such as *Buona Sera, Mrs Campbell* (1969).

It is her Italian triumphs, such as *The Woman of Rome* (1954), and the sultry *Solomon and Sheba* (1959) which stay in the mind. Signora Lollobrigida now lives alone in a villa on the Via Appia reflecting on a life "in which nobody gave me any free gifts". After her divorce from the Yugoslav, Milko Skofic, she "never found the right man". Her lovers included the South African heart transplant surgeon, Christiaan Barnard, but "I found I was too independent ... in any case, men find successful women troublesome".

And Fidel Castro? "People always ask me if I made love to Fidel. What can I say? It was he who said he had lost his head over me, not the other way round ... I got to know him well, and yes, we were in love, but it was Platonic". As for her rival, Sophia Loren: "Well, when we meet nowadays, as we sometimes do, we greet each other. We have even been photographed together".

La Lollo as Sheba with celebrated décolletée



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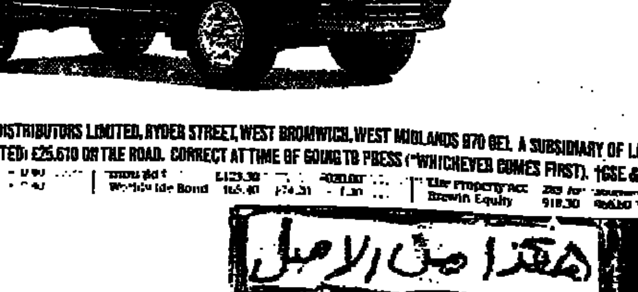

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'Insensitive Britain' shocks Holocaust victim's son

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

ANDERS MARTINSEN / SCAN-FOTO

Peter Csango feels that he owes it to his father, a Holocaust victim, to win back "confiscated" savings left in a Swiss bank's London branch before the war

THE Hungarian-born son of a Holocaust victim who tried to retrieve his father's prewar savings in the London branch of a Swiss bank was told repeatedly by the Department of Trade that it was confiscated as "enemy property".

Dr Peter Csango first inquired about the account when the Cold War eased briefly in 1963. He made a formal written request after fleeing from Hungary in 1969. Dr Csango, now living in Norway, repeated the exercise after post-graduate studies in Britain in 1972 and made a half-hearted attempt again late last year as Swiss banks came under pressure over dormant Holocaust assets. Despite Hungary being an ally of Nazi Germany, he was so shocked at the insenstive British handling of the case that he will try once more only if he receives some official support. "I have not given up, but purely psychologically it is taxing," he says. Based on notes kept by his grandparents, Dr Csango also tried for a quarter of a century to find if there were family savings in western Switzerland and in France, without success.

The Swiss Bank Corporation (SBC) confirmed in a letter last year that Ferenc Csango, his father, held $1,900 (£1,140) at its branch in London in 1939. Ferenc, a Jew, was deported by the Nazis in March 1942 to serve in a forced-labour battalion on the Russian front. He never returned and was probably killed during a Soviet counter-offensive near Gorky in January 1943. About a tenth of the 70,000 Hungarian Jews in the battalions survived.

Dr Csango, an only child, was born two months after his 33-year-old father, was taken away. "I was baptised, otherwise I would not have survived," he says.

Ferenc's deposit was frozen by the Government during the war, classified as enemy property and confiscated from SBC. When Dr Csango approached the British authorities in 1963, they admitted there had been an account. But an official at the then Board of Trade said he could not have the money.

There is no written correspondence on this meeting because Dr Csango did not want the Hungarian authorities to know about it while he and his mother still lived in Budapest.

In a reply to a written appeal in 1969, the Board of Trade's finance branch wrote that Dr Csango could be considered for an "ex-gratia" payment provided he supplied documentary proof of his father's fate and sworn declarations "by two other persons with first-hand knowledge of the facts alleged". He was told, however, that "forced labour is not normally regarded as a deprivation of liberty". The letter also hinted that his chances of receiving even a charitable payment were slim. "Consideration will be given to your application provided that funds for ex-gratia payments are still available when satisfactory evidence is received," it said. "I cannot see the difference between dying in a camp or on forced labour in Russia; they died of exhaustion or they were shot," Dr Csango says.

> 'On forced labour they died of exhaustion or they were shot'

The Board of Trade's response was a mirror-image of some of the insensitive replies Holocaust victims received from the Swiss banks and authorities until recently.

When he tried again with SBC in London in August, the bank was the first to explain that in strict legal terms the account was seized and handed to the Hungarian Government under an agreement with Britain in 1963. Britain also recovered assets and property in Hungary. The bank repeated previous advice to contact the "Custodian for Enemy Property" at the Department of Trade.

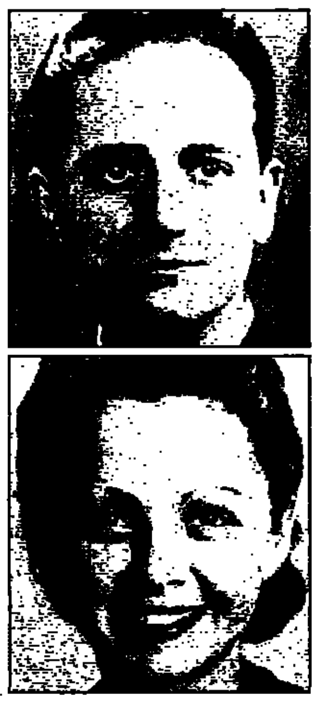
Hungary became firmly Communist in 1948, and none of the heirs of Holocaust victims was aware of the right to reclaim money in Western countries. Dr Csango felt that it would have been too dangerous to try, even if he had known, because it would have shown ties beyond the Iron Curtain.

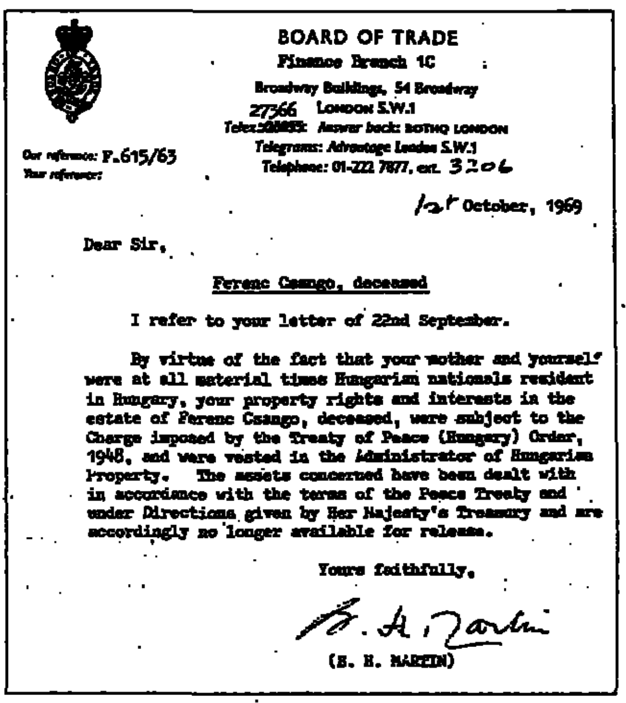
SBC told Dr Csango that the bilateral agreements later fell into disarray "and the British Government agreed that in cases of extreme hardship they would reimburse the enemy citizens themselves".

Dr Csango is 55 now, a Norwegian citizen with three children and a successful career as a microbiologist.

He objects to the agreements between Britain and Hungary, which fail to examine if any of the private accounts handed over belonged to victims of persecution, saying: "This is morally wrong."

He adds: "I am not pursuing this for the money, I feel I owe it to my father."





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Our reference: F.615/63
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1st October, 1969

Dear Sir,

Ferenc Csango, deceased

I refer to your letter of 22nd September.

By virtue of the fact that your mother and yourself were at all material times Hungarian nationals resident in Hungary, your property rights and interests in the estate of Ferenc Csango, deceased, were subject to the Charge imposed by the Treaty of Peace (Hungary) Order, 1948, and were vested in the Administrator of Hungarian Property. The assets concerned have been dealt with in accordance with the terms of the Peace Treaty and under Directions given by Her Majesty's Treasury and are accordingly no longer available for release.

Yours faithfully,

B. H. Martin

(B. H. MARTIN)

Ferenc Csango, his wife Magda, and the letter sent by the Board of Trade in October 1969 rejecting Peter Csango's belated claim to his father's property

Karadzic hardliners defy woman leader

BY TOM WALKER

HARDLINE members of the Republika Srpska parliament held a crisis session yesterday in defiance of an order disbanding it by Biljana Plavsic, the Bosnian Serb president. The move by Mrs Plavsic is directed at the clandestine might of Radovan Karadzic, the indicted war criminal.

Yesterday the collision course was set: her order for new elections on September 1 was to be ignored, and the hardline Serbs were preparing to dismiss Mrs Plavsic from office.

She was supported yesterday by 7,000 demonstrators who gathered outside her office in the northern town of Banja Luka and urged her not to give way. "I am sorry this happened, but crime must be stopped," Mrs Plavsic told them. "[War] victims did not fall for a state of thieves, but for a state of honest people."

Whoever wins this power struggle, it is unlikely that Republika Srpska can survive. If the Karadzic camp prevails, the eastern part of Republika Srpska and its mountain capital of Pale — the power base for Dr Karadzic — might try to join Serbia proper.

In the most optimistic scenario, Mrs Plavsic's western half, including Banja Luka, the largest town, would then become a form of Serb canton. Bosnia-Herzegovina would consist of this new canton plus the Muslim-Croat Federation centred on Sarajevo. Bosnia as defined by the Dayton Peace Accord would be missing its eastern flank.

The final schism has been waiting to happen since February, when Mrs Plavsic placed an advertisement in Serbian papers calling for an investigation into the export-import companies controlled by Dr Karadzic and Momcilo Krajisnik, the Serb member of Bosnia's Muslim-Serb-Croat state presidency.

The power of Dr Karadzic's long and unseen hand became apparent: there was no investigation.

The Karadzic-Krajisnik companies are called Centrex and Select-Impex, and bring in massive revenues from contraband, swelling the warchests of their owners. Police sources in Banja Luka have spoken of whole teams of customs police being replaced by Karadzic loyalists overnight, as planes laden with cigarettes and alcohol land at the town's military airport. Dr Karadzic controls a nationwide secret police network, which leaves most Bosnian Serbs terrified of divulging the inner workings of their republic.

"The consequence of this is an enormous accumulation of wealth by a relatively small number of our population," Mrs Plavsic said in an extraordinary address from the Banja Luka studio of state television. "Do they think that the rest of the population will be their slaves?" Yesterday government officials closed the studio.

How far Mrs Plavsic's brinksmanship can be pushed will depend on the support given her by the international community. America in particular has invested heavily in aid and quasi-political offices in Banja Luka in recent months, and Nato's Stabilisation Force troops appear ready to help keep the peace in the town, the base for Britain's biggest troop contingent.

☐ The Hague: Slavko Dokmanovic, 47, a Serb and former Mayor of Vukovar, pleaded not guilty at a UN war crimes tribunal to charges of involvement in the abduction and murder of hundreds of men from the Croatian town's hospital in November, 1991. *(Reuter)*

Pistol-packing Pretender will fight poll 'fraud'

FROM TOM WALKER IN TIRANA

LEKA ZOG has absolved himself of all responsibility for Thursday's bloody and bizarre shootout outside the Central Election Commission in the middle of Tirana, the capital of Albania. He claims that he is powerless to bring a halt to royalist rallies.

"It is not a question of demonstrations. This is the will of the Albanian people," the son of the country's last King said at his villa, the scene of much frantic diplomatic negotiation yesterday.

The American and British Ambassadors came and went with messages of peace, but the pistol-packing Leka vowed to continue his fight against what he says is a fraudulently elected Socialist Government blocking his natural right to the throne.

"The people are demonstrating all over the country. From south to north they are disgusted with the election results." Leka had swapped his military uniform for a safari suit, but still wore his calf-length black army boots in the middle of his sitting room. "I just happened to be wearing a uniform yesterday," he said.

The Albanian election process has turned this week from farce to tragedy and into dangerous stalemate. Yesterday an important element — results — were still missing and a second round of voting planned for tomorrow may be postponed. Leka's unique contribution of a town centre gunfight has become an all-consuming sideshow, with royalists and Democrats giving press conferences angrily blaming the Socialists, and Bashkim Fino, the Prime Minister, pointing the finger at Leka's well-armed highland clan, which he says is being used by the hardliners of Sali Berisha, the President.

"I don't get used very easily. I look after the interests of my people," retorted Leka, fishing a cigarette from his ever-present packet of Rothmans.

"We didn't come with the intention of starting war . . . If we were carrying out an armed action, believe me, our people are better equipped than the pistols you saw yesterday." His description of the Central Election Commission battle resembled a military debriefing.

"I told people to disperse and I was within three metres of my vehicle. Then there was a hail of fire on the square," he said. He rattled out the names of those in the Socialist-controlled police unit he held responsible for the shooting, which killed one man and wounded five others.

He says he will not call for another referendum on the restoration of the monarchy if this one fails, as most estimations suggest it will. In that case, he says, he will appeal to the constitutional court, many of whose members were seen waving to him during Thursday's debacle.

☐ **Rome:** Italy will begin its withdrawal of troops in the multinational security force from Albania on July 18 and expects to complete it by August 10, Massimo Brutti, a Defence Ministry under-secretary said. *(Reuter)*

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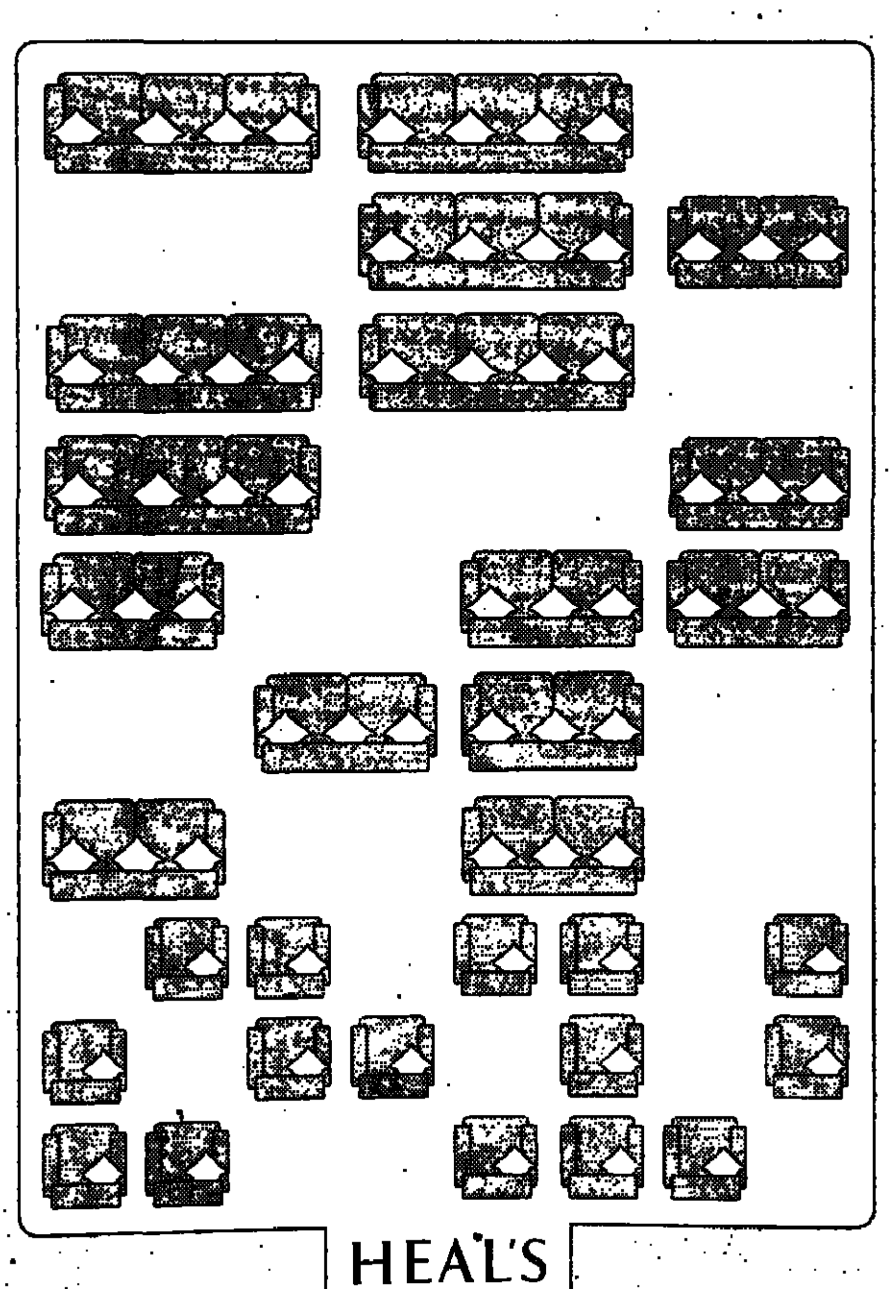

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Single-minded legal campaign against Juppé pays off for preppy young lawyer

Champion of the Left

PARIS FILE

by BEN MACINTYRE

AT 34, Arnaud Montebourg has a seat in the French National Assembly, a weekly column in one of the country's most influential magazines, a reputation as France's toughest left-wing lawyer and the unalloyed adoration of the Socialist Party.

The boy done good. Better, indeed, than might have been expected of one who left the Socialist Party in 1990 and who, 18 months ago, was still railing against the Left. "Party politics here is carried out with all the openness of a Vatican cabal. I'd rather have nothing to do with it," he told a British journalist in October 1995.

M Montebourg's change of heart and his sudden elevation to the summit of the Socialist Party were the direct result of his single-minded, aggressive and highly successful legal campaign against Alain Juppé, the ousted Gaullist Prime Minister. As the lawyer for the Association of Paris Taxpayers, M Montebourg accused the Prime Minister of misusing his former position as Deputy Mayor of Paris to obtain luxury, rent-reduced accommodation for himself and his family.

Despite his preppy appearance, complete with Armani suits, Oxford brogues and gold-rimmed spectacles, the lawyer from an academic Dijon family has the instincts of a street fighter and his crusade against the Prime Minister was a bloody, bare-knuckled affair. The duel became so personal that M Juppé, a man who seldom betrays emotion, was said to change colour and rant at the mention of M Montebourg's name.

Finally, after months of legal wrangling during which M Montebourg became a regular fixture on the evening news, a judge ruled that M Juppé had indeed been guilty of a conflict of interest. The franc plunged briefly. The Prime Minister was humiliated and forced to move out of his flat. Aranaud Montebourg ascended, immediately, into the Socialist pantheon.

There were many reasons why M Juppé and the Gaullists lost the elections, but M Montebourg and the seam of corruption he had exposed at the highest level of government, were among the most telling.

It was a sign of the Socialists' gratitude that M Montebourg soon found himself back in the bosom of the party and running for parliament. Lionel Jospin, the Socialist leader and now Prime Minister, went to M Montebourg's constituency in Bressans only days before the election to give his benediction to the David who helped to slay the Gaullist Goliath.

Soft-spoken but hard-eyed, the soigné young lawyer has become the nearest thing the Socialist Party has to a male pin-up. His column in the leftist magazine *L'Evénement du Jeudi*, entitled "Notes from a Brand-New MP", carries a photograph of M Montebourg smiling dreamily into the middle distance.

The ferociously ambitious M Montebourg has been catapulted into the very Socialist "cabal" he once condemned, but in his column he plays the naïf: "I felt like a foreign tourist, speaking quietly in order not to disturb anyone," he wrote of his first visit to the National Assembly, while clearly relishing his notoriety. "Alain Juppé did not want to recognise me. He smiled at me a little nervously."

"Have you got your bullet-proof vest?" a fellow Socialist asked him.

Investigations into alleged corruption over Paris municipal housing are still under way and rumours of imminent further disclosures are rife.

Jean Tiberi, the Paris Mayor and MP embroiled in the scandal, "studiously avoids me and clings to the wall," the lawyer reports happily, in the certain knowledge that it is not himself, but his political and legal enemies who are most acutely in need of legal armour.

Arnaud Montebourg's street-fighter instincts, fuelled by his ferocious ambition, have catapulted him into the highest reaches of the French Socialist Party

Elegance is stressed

WHAT with high-level corruption and art thieves, Paris lawyers are feeling overworked and under pressure. But the designer Pierre Cardin has come up with a solution: anti-stress robes, the sartorial equivalent of Prozac. M Cardin's legal robes are "woven through with small particles of metal so that the cloth ensures the removal of static electricity, the source of stress". The legal outfit, which also claims to offer "an impeccable silhouette of perfect elegance", was commissioned by Maison Bosc, "Costumier to the Courts since 1845".

According to the designer, orders from freaked-out lawyers are flooding in for the robes, which go on sale in September at Fr5,000 (£500) a twirl.

'Viscount' made art of crime

THE French art world lost one of its staunchest defenders this month, with the retirement of a policeman and art connoisseur known as "The Viscount", whose ability to trace stolen treasures made him a legend in the Paris gendarmerie.

"The Viscount", identified only as "Christian de B", has always insisted on anonymity, but was only too well known in the Paris criminal world. His prodigious memory and expertise, now made redundant by computerisation, "struck terror into art traffickers," *Libération* said last week.

A descendant of an aristocratic family, the rotund and retiring "Viscount" was, by his own account, "a good-for-nothing" with a passion for art and antiques. "Give him a silver spoon and two days later he could tell you exactly where it came from," a colleague said.

His most impressive coup came in 1988, when a large collection of paintings was stolen from the Paris flat of an elderly duchess, who was so rich she could not remember what had been on the walls. But the Viscount could, and gradually worked out exactly what was missing.

Three years later the thief was caught, and "the Viscount's" inventory was found to have been picture-perfect.

Angry volcano seen as omen for change in Mexican elections

Zedillo: introduced electoral reforms

By Tunku Varadarajan
in Mexico City
and David Adams

MEXICO'S ruling party could face the most stunning sequence of defeats in its 68-year history tomorrow when elections take place for the entire lower house of Congress, a quarter of the Senate, six state governorships and the post of Mayor of Mexico City.

Meanwhile, the Popocatepetl volcano rumbles menacingly 40 miles from here. It last erupted in 1925, during the revolution which ended with the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) taking power. Mexicans see its discontent as an omen of important change.

The PRI, which has excluded all other parties from power since it first took a grip of the country in 1929, is bracing itself. Genuine electoral reforms introduced by President Zedillo, as well as the presence of a myriad of foreign observers, have ensured that the polls will be the fairest ever in the country's fraud-scarred history. Importantly, they could also mark the belated coming of age in Mexico of a multi-party democracy.

The most substantial gains are expected to be made by the left-wing opposition Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), led by Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas. Named after the last Aztec ruler to resist the Spanish *conquistadores*, he is the son of Lázaro Cárdenas, arguably the most popular President Mexico has ever had. Señor Cárdenas is standing for the post of Mexico City's Mayor. His mestizo physiognomy mirrors that of many Mexicans, and he is profoundly popular with the working classes. It is now universally acknowledged that he was robbed of the presidency in the 1988 elections, when the Government's computers "collapsed" while he was leading in the electoral count. When the computers restarted, the PRI's hand-picked candidate, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, had won.

All Mexico's eyes are on the mayoral race. There has never been an election for the post before, and the PRI's candidate, Alfredo del Mazo, is in danger of drowning in a sea of votes for Señor Cárdenas. If Señor Cárdenas wins — which is regarded as a foregone conclusion — he is sure to use the city hall as a staging post for the presidential elections in 2000. If he does the Mayor's job well, he will be the favourite to rule Mexico in the new millennium. Yet his ascent, and that of his party, has caused concern in Washington. He is a critic of Nafta, the free-trade agreement that has unified the markets of Mexico, Canada and the United States.

With the PRI expected to take up to 33 per cent of the vote, the most likely outcome of the election is the first Mexican hung parliament this century. Señor Cárdenas's PRD is expected to win about 23 per cent of the vote, with about 25 per cent going to the conservative National Action Party (PAN).

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■ OPINION

Jolly Rogers: should another big lottery award go to new Labour's favourite architect?

■ THEATRE

Not quite the best of all possible worlds: Voltaire's *Candide* is staged at the Gate

THE TIMES ARTS

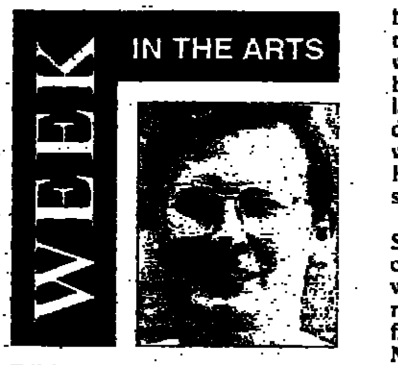
■ GOING OUT

From the British debut of the spectacular new touring show by Michael Jackson . . .

■ GOING OUT

. . . to the Kirov Ballet's London season: the week's top events are listed today in *The Times Directory*

Is the South Bank a roof too far?



WEEK IN THE ARTS

RICHARD MORRISON

How swiftly the sweet taste of political victory turns acrid when the hot potatoes start rolling in! Two months ago Chris Smith was a hero. Cultured, bright, sensitive in all the right spots, he seemed the perfect man to be Tony Blair's first arts *Obergruppenführer*.

What a difference nine weeks makes. No other minister has endured more dispiriting humiliations than nice Mr Smith from the Department of National Heritage. Indeed, the DNH is again living up to its disgraceful nickname: the Dump for No-Hopers.

Consider the decline in his fortunes. With his feet barely under the mahogany, he was all but hoodwinked into approving the transfer of Mary Allen from the Arts Council to its biggest client, the Royal Opera House, without even the pretence of a job interview. The Labour Party has had 18 years to think about how to sort out the mess at Covent Garden. Yet within 18 days of taking power, its minister is unwittingly compromised by a typical Covent Garden stitch-up. First black mark.

Then he decided to call in Camelot's bosses, rant about how much they were making from the National Lottery, and demand that they donate their bonuses to charity. Oh dear. Theodore Roosevelt advised politicians to speak softly and carry a big stick. Nice Mr Smith spoke *fortissimo* and waggled a titchy twig. He had to climb down. Cashalot's profitable arrangements remain as they were. Second black mark.

Yet the biggest humiliation was still to come. The Prime Minister finally decided that the Millennium Dome could be built, and that Greenwich would have its preposterous £800 million party on the stroke of Two-Triple-O. So to whom does he turn to ensure that the planning is efficient and imaginative? Not his trusty Heritage Secretary. No, nice Mr Smith is elbowed into the wings. Instead, out steps Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio. Mr Smith, being a nice chap, probably doesn't regard this as an snub. Believe me, Chrissie, it is.

What, then, does the future hold for our nice Mr Smith? Regrettably, more bad news. Yet another scorching potato is splodging straight into his lap. After more than a year of fraught secret meetings the Arts Council is about to announce whether the South Bank Centre (the Festival Hall and its ghastly concrete satellites) is to get an enormous lottery handout — it could be bigger than Covent Garden's — to pay for a mega-course of cosmetic surgery. This would chiefly involve covering up the despised Queen Elizabeth Hall and Hayward Gallery with a big glass roof, thus creating lots of bistro-friendly indoor piazzas in which trendy Londoners can feed and frolic.

Well, no sane person would oppose wrapping up the Hayward Gallery, unless the alternative is complete demolition. Unfortunately for nice Mr Smith, however, the architect of the new South Bank roof is none other than our old friend, the aptly named Lord Rogers of Riverside. Which means that all manner of delicate liaisons must be considered.

It will be recalled, for instance, that Sir Richard Rogers (as he was then) was deputy chairman of the Arts Council at the very time (March 1995) when the council decided to give the South Bank Centre £980,000 for a "feasibility study" into the redevelopment scheme devised by . . . R. Rogers. And he was still deputy chairman in July 1996 when the council examined this study and decided that it was so far from being feasible that a further £1.2 million needed to be spent drawing up new plans.

Of course, Rogers very properly "left the room" when the council discussed the South Bank. But many eyebrows were raised at such a close relationship between givers and receivers of lottery largesse. Good grief, imagine the scandal if the very people on the Arts Council who gave £78 million to the Royal Opera House suddenly found themselves spending the money at Covent Garden!

Since then, however, the Rogers Situation has become even more complicated. The architect has been created a working Labour peer. He and his restaurateur wife Ruthie are dear friends of Tony and Cherie. The Millennium Dome approved by Mr Blair last month is a Rogers design. How much of its gigantic budget will go to Lord Rogers's company is a matter for speculation. But when the new millennium supremo, Mr Mandelson, actually starts parroting Lord Rogers's famous phrase about constructing a "string of pearls" along the Thames (the "pearls", of course, often being Lord Rogers's own projects, from Greenwich to his new £80 million penthouses at Battersea), you have to wonder, again, whether there should be such a warm and loving relationship between those who distribute state patronage and those who benefit so handsomely from it.

So how does nice Mr Smith handle all this? The answer is, he's damned either way. The South Bank does need its facelift: it's the most conspicuous pile of creepy-crawly passageways in central London, and a real turn-off to lone concertgoers late at night. Equally, Mr Smith — shaken and scarred by his Covent Garden experience — will be all too aware that "jobs for the cronies" mud will fly if Lord Rogers gets another plum lottery commission.

Gosh, I wouldn't like to be in nice Mr Smith's shoes. Observing him trying to defuse this booby-trap will surely be the most diverting sideshow of the summer. They should stage it on Cromer Pier. Cameron Mackintosh could produce it, Mark McCormack could sell tickets — and Mr Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio, could step in to "save the day" after watching his colleague slowly twist in the wind.

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** sees *Candide* transcend its adaptation

Voltaire still in charge

Murray Gold, the author of this likeable if unremarkable adaptation of Voltaire (at the Gate, W11), clearly has it in for a chap called Jolyon. At any rate, he has dedicated his play to someone of that name "in the hope that he has found the best of all possible worlds". But that is the philosopher Pangloss's description of a planet where nature is brutal and most of the people are worse. To invite poor old Jolyon to settle in such a place is a bit like sending him a wish-you-were-here card from the Siberian Gulag.

On second thoughts, maybe the invitation is less malevolent than it might have been. Pangloss's world does not emerge from David Farr's production looking and feeling quite as vicious as it does from Voltaire's novel. The mood is humorous, which it should be, but also light, which it shouldn't. As a contribution to "a select season of European satire" — the Gate's tag for its current batch of work — it should surely be harder, tougher, more sardonic.

More imaginative, too — or what is the point of bringing *Candide* to the stage, instead of encouraging the populace to read or reread it? The story comes in tiny bursts, punctuated by blackouts. Laura Hopkins's set is a green-grey concrete wall in front of which a sort of overblown mosquito net sometimes materialises. Virtually the only props are crates, which are used for a canoe in the Amazonian rapids and a gondola in Venice, but for little more interesting than that. The cast mimes tempest and Lisbon earthquake, but nothing much more. As rough theatre goes, this is not very inventive, visually arresting stuff.

Still, Justin Salinger's Candide, a nerdish waif with a big, daffy grin, makes pretty well all the physical and moral journeys Voltaire wanted. He is lashed close to death by the Bulgar military, shipwrecked, almost burnt as a heretic, pursued as a fugitive across South America, given a glimpse of Eldorado, robbed in Surinam, conned and imprisoned in Paris and, after marrying the immortal beloved he no longer fancies, sent off to cultivate his garden.

Gold transposes narrative to dialogue efficiently enough, although sometimes at the cost of Voltaire's *faux-naïf* tone, and adds a few lines of his own. I don't recall a king saying he wanted to start a bloody war in the name of a city that would "probably be razed to the ground" or Candide telling Pangloss that "life has lost its colour — I swim in an eternal sea of beige". But then what's wrong with introducing the odd modern note into a piece that still has plenty of aptness in a decade where corruption and callow optimism, pain, sorrow and human resilience continue to cohabit?

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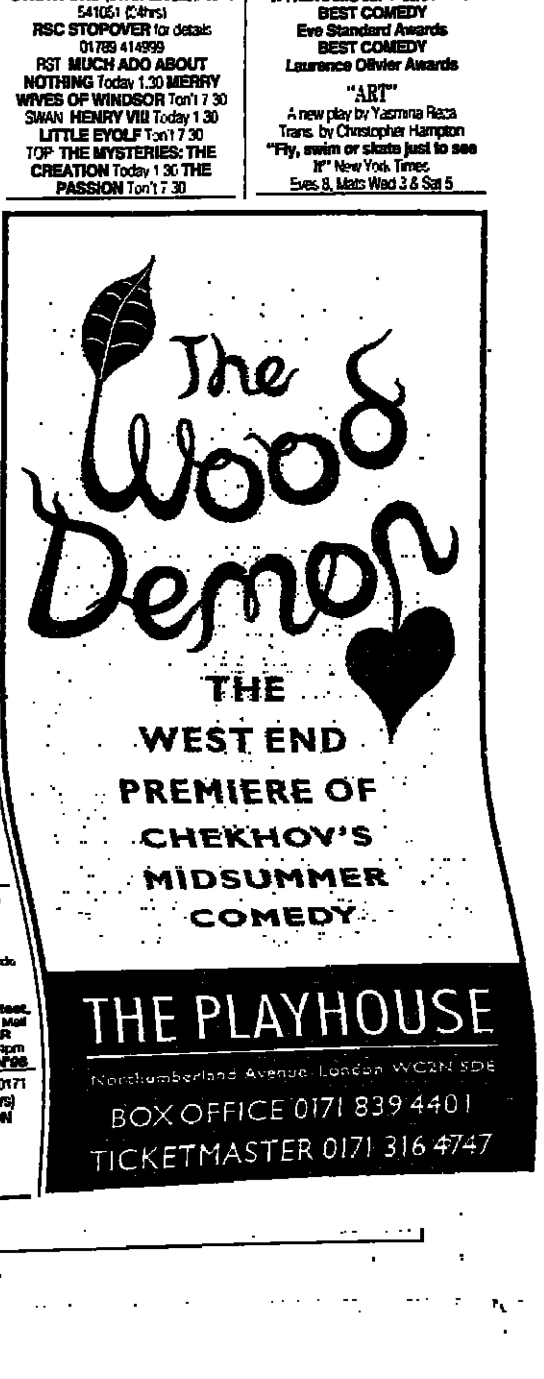

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NEWS REVIEW
BETRAYAL
Now that Chris Patten is no longer governor of Hong Kong, he can speak his mind at last about Britain's treatment of the colony's people. Tomorrow he tells Jonathan Dimbleby what he really thinks

MAGAZINE
THE KILLING OF STEPHEN RESTORICK
Read the remarkable story of how a British soldier came to be mourned by the Catholic mothers of South Armagh

CULTURE
HOORAY! PAINTING IS DEAD
Waldemar Januszczak applauds the demise of mankind's chief form of artistic expression

Hanson's Bristol cream

Has bra model Sophie Anderton got what it takes to bag Britain's most eligible bachelor, multimillionaire Robert Hanson? See Style

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Mars is the last, best hope for America.

Pathfinder proves the Red Planet is today's Wild West, says **Tim Hames**

Americans are extraordinary people. *Few others would* send a probe through 300 million miles of space primarily to discover themselves. Whatever the success or failure of the *Pathfinder* mission, Nasa will be back. Although funding is much tighter than in the glory days of the 1960s, the widely predicted elimination of *the US space programme* has failed to materialise. Nor is there much chance that it will.

Meanwhile Russian efforts, symbolised by the embarrassing break-up of the Mir space station this week, continue to collapse. It is certainly true that the general future of space exploration depends upon co-operation between the two former superpower rivals. However, that point masks an important distinction. If the two nations do not collaborate, an American programme of some significance will continue, albeit in a curtailed form. The future for the Russian venture is far less certain.

The quest to explore space has a *different and more powerful meaning* for Americans. Spectacular scientific discoveries and raw commercial advantage are patently useful but not ultimately essential. The quest can be justified as an end in itself, even at times of tight budget constraints.

Not that Nasa believes in taking *any chances. The agency* has long been among the most politically sophisticated pressure groups in Washington. The choice of Independence Day for the *Pathfinder* touchdown was more than a mere coincidence of the calendar. The announcement last summer that microfossils had been found in a meteorite, suspected to have originated on Mars was also rather fortuitous in its timing. The rock itself had been in Nasa's possession for a decade. The dramatic press statement came in the middle of the American political convention season. Politicians from all parties, confronted with a fascinated electorate, scrambled to pledge their support for further space expenditure.

When the Berlin Wall fell, Nasa feared for its future

One year ago the blockbuster film *Independence Day* was released. Serious space types pretended to be horrified at the portrayal of aliens as aggressors. Secretly they were delighted at the publicity. When *Apollo 13* blessed American cinemas a year earlier, Nasa shamelessly promoted it. In return, the film's stars testified for the space programme in Congress. Even the 50th anniversary of the Roswell *"UFO crash-landing" incident*, while officially ridiculed, did not want for experts willing to discuss the circumstances under which other life forms might be identified. If the UFO phenomenon had not been invented by others, Nasa would have found a method of its own.

Although the *present probe* was planned before last summer's sensational announcement, Nasa has exploited the increased interest. The agency has stressed the "cheap and cheerful" nature of this mission. A snip to the American public at £90 million — rather less than the takings of *Independence Day* after its first two weeks at the box office. Another *nine* flights to the Red Planet are planned over the next eight years, culminating in a craft that will collect rocks from the surface and return them to Earth. The whole enterprise will cost less than a single *Apollo* expedition to the Moon.

This parsimony is prudent but *not essential. When the Berlin Wall* fell, Nasa feared that its future would be caught in the rubble. The Cold War and the space race had not merely occurred simultaneously *but symbiotically*. Nasa was established by President Eisenhower after the shock of the first Sputnik satellite launch by the Soviet Union. President Kennedy's clarion call for a man to be placed on the Moon in the 1960s represented an almost desperate attempt to overtake the communists after Yuri Gagarin's flight caught the United States out again.

At the height of the space race in 1967, 4 per cent of the American gross domestic product was devoted to the *Apollo* programme, at a time of vast expenditure on Lyndon Johnson's social policies and on the intensifying war in Vietnam.

That the Warsaw Pact imploded at all appeared bad enough for Nasa. That it did so in the late 1980s and early 1990s, when the agency was still reeling from the *Challenger* tragedy, the fiasco of the initially short-sighted Hubble telescope, and adverse publicity surrounding cost overruns and bureaucratic bungles, implied disaster. Worse *still, the American budget deficit* was soaring rapidly towards $300 billion and cuts in space seemed a good deal more palatable than reductions in cherished programmes on Earth.

Despite all that, Nasa has survived and prospered. Neither George Bush nor Bill Clinton could *bring themselves to wield the knife*. It will enter the next century retaining a significant budget and 17,000 employees. The life on Mars mystery has given the agency a new sense of purpose and public standing which, conveniently, can be pursued through relatively inexpensive unmanned exploration. This has, anyway, long been seen as more scientifically valuable by the professionals.

For in the end, space has been more than a Cold War tool for Americans. Its appeal reflects the sense of mission that is the nature of the nation itself. In that sense, it is more than appropriate that the Mars probe should land on Independence Day. The United States was built on the pioneer principle. In the 19th century, that meant the great drive westward in the quest *for free land. When the country* was finally fully settled, the promotion of American values across the planet became the fundamental crusade for this century.

While the communist threat existed, a consensus could be kept that overcame the *isolationism of many Americans* who had abandoned the old world for the new and did not expect to return to Europe's internal affairs. Now that worldwide Marxism has been crushed by worldwide markets, the same missionary zeal has proved harder to maintain.

While many American eyes are on Mars, in Madrid next week what is formally known as Nato expansion will prove the smokescreen for Nato's emasculation. Americans, a restless breed, will need a new challenge for the next century.

Space provides that focus and Nasa need not fear for its future. In the space of 200 years, American energies will have shifted from Red Indians to the Red Army and now the Red Planet.

Means may alter but the ends remain the same. That is as true now as it was 221 years ago, when Thomas Jefferson issued the Declaration of Independence. John Kennedy once described the United *States as "the last, best hope for* mankind on Earth". That hope will continue to be placed and pursued in the heavens.

As the Home Secretary dithers over his successor, **Woodrow Wyatt** fears for the future of racing

Will Whitehall wreck the Tote?

The chairmanship of the Tote is of much importance to racing. The Tote Board has one objective: to maximise its profits, which it gives to racing. Now that Ladbrokes has joined Tote Direct, which we founded with Bass, the owners of Coral bookmakers, the profits to the Tote will mount considerably. Add to that *the right we won to bet on the* outcome of the Irish lottery and on anything that ordinary bookmakers can bet on, and within a few years the Tote's profits are set fair to be about £25 million a year.

For the year ending March 31, we made record profits. They would have been £1 million higher if *Michael Howard had not refused* us permission to bet on Irish lottery numbers until Christmas. We are grateful for the all-party support which forced this through. The Levy Board, under the wise guidance of Sir John Sparrow, competently distributes the hypothecated tax, or levy, on horserace betting. One day this may end, and the Tote's contribution to racing will be even more vital. When Lord Whitelaw was Home Secretary we agreed not to let the Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, know about this hypothecated tax for fear she would blow it up.

Unfortunately, without telling us, the Home Office decided to register the Tote as a Non-Departmental Public Body, making it unique on the 1,227-strong list of such bodies in that it has never had a ha'penny from the Government; rather, it has paid large sums in betting duty and corporation tax. *So Nolan rules had to be applied to* finding my successor. Last July Michael Howard wrote to me, saying that he would be very happy to consider the claims of anyone who had my support, an undertaking which has since been discarded. He also said he wanted the new chairman to be on the board in early 1997, so that I could induct him into the business before my intended retirement on April 30. Since then I have been twice asked to accept an extension to my chairmanship, first until June 30 and now until July 31. I agreed because I could not leave the Tote rudderless with so many delicate commercial decisions to be taken.

Initially I was asked my views on the list of applicants for my job. I gave them, including advice to disregard a few, one of whom, I understand, was actually offered the chairmanship although the offer was subsequently withdrawn. *I dare not say publicly which of the* remaining candidates I think the most likely to be capable of carrying forward the highly successful policies of the board, lest he be disqualified. The Tote was a shambles 20 years ago when I reluctantly took on the chairmanship on the insistence of Roy Jenkins, then Labour Home Secretary, because he knew I was interested in racing.

Today the Tote is very big business, with the fastest and most efficient tote (pari-mutuel) in the world. We have been forced to be, to parry intense competition from bookmakers who have stayed paramount in the affections of punters since they first took bets at races started by Charles II at Newmarket. There is no comprehension at the Home Office, or among the panel which interviewed the applicants, of the nature of the Tote business. Mostly *it was the blind interviewing the* blind. Top marks seemed to go to applicants who criticised the board's policies without knowing what they were. The last Home Secretary to visit Wigan, the centre for controlling our operations, was Douglas Hurd, who opened it. There we have the largest credit betting operation in the world.

We have a remarkable team at the top, with John Heaton as chief executive and Tom Phillips as financial director. These two have laboured skilfully on the documentation for the Ladbrokes entry into Tote Direct. They will be at it again if Bass, our original partner in Tote Direct, succeeds in its offer to buy William Hill. For the good of racing, I hope the bid will not be *referred to the Monopolies Commission*. But in some areas an aggregation of William Hill and Coral shops will create a monopoly, and our team will work on offers to buy shops which Coral has to dispose of. Yet, to the concern of Tote staff, John Heaton's contract runs out in November, awaiting the wishes of my successor.

I think it reasonable to say that, having brought the Tote from insolvency to a business worth £400 million, I am in a good position to know the qualities required by my successor. I have met Jack Straw officially only once. He was charming but curiously akin to Michael Howard in his addiction to Douglas Jay's famous phrase, "the gentleman in Whitehall knows best". New Labour, like old Labour, worryingly thinks that it knows how to run businesses. I thought Margaret Thatcher had destroyed that delusion, but it appears not. It is difficult to build up a thriving business. It is easy for a duff chairman to wreck it. I would hate to see agreeable Jack Straw look naive and gullible in his selection of my successor.

Lord Wyatt has been chairman of the Horserace Totalisator Board since 1976.

Bonfire of brown envelopes

The overblown response to the Downey report tells us much about the vanity of the British political class

Neil Hamilton faces the music: a below-par example of the species *Homo politicus oleaginus*

Simon Jenkins

So what can be done about Neil Hamilton for bringing such shame on Parliament? His ostracism from Tatton Conservative Association is clearly not punishment enough. He has been disowned by his constituents. Nor is that considered sufficient. Yesterday's hysterical reaction to the Downey report on cash-for-questions suggests that more, much more is required. Mr Hamilton should be horsewhipped through Knutsford and slammed in Great Budworth stocks. He should be hauled to London and dragged around the bounds of Westminster in sackcloth and ashes.

Still not sufficient is the cry. Has not the mighty *Guardian* spoken? Has not the giant Paxman turned the thumb dustwards? St Margaret's Westminster must hear a sermon of damnation delivered by the Archbishop of Canterbury. A hit squad of MPs, television interviewers and *Guardian* journalists must be sworn before the great Lord Nolan. Mr Hamilton must be stoned to death at the wall of the Jewel Tower and his body fed to dogs. Does the BBC newsroom still foam at the mouth? Does the parliamentary lobby still writhe in indignation? Round up Mr Hamilton's goods and chattels and burn them. *Sell his family into slavery*. Scratch the miserable name of Hamilton from the record of history.

Of all the hypocritical deposits to fall from the rear end of the Palace of Westminster, few can equal this week's three-volume Downey report. I carry no torch for Mr *Hamilton. He seems to be a below-par* example of the species *Homo politicus oleaginus*. He stayed at the Paris Ritz (home-from-home for some Tory MPs) on someone else's expenses. He took money from political lobbyists to "put down questions". The answers to these questions, let alone their impact on public affairs, remain a mystery. All we know is that Mohamed Al Fayed ratted on Mr Hamilton, whom he had paid as a lobbyist, when the latter became a junior minister and refused to reopen an Industry Department inquiry into Mr Al Fayed's business dealings. Overnight Mr Al Fayed became the darling of investigative journalism and the champion of open government.

Newspapers are right to expose such goings-on. *The Guardian* clearly has a hotline to Mr Al Fayed's "little list" of Ritz guests and receivers of stuffed envelopes. This liaison of left-wing propriety and Harrods flash malice may *seem strange, but journalism has* always supped with spoons of various lengths, some of them blessed by Yuri Geller. The hounding of Mr Hamilton, Tim Smith, Jonathan Aitken and others is in the tradition of Trollope's Quintus Slide. *The Guardian* has taken up *the old Sunday Times mantle of* heavy-duty, heavy-cost investigative reporting. Since MPs are unwilling to regulate themselves, the press must guard the guardians.

Yet Mr Hamilton is not a serial killer, a child molester or a high-rolling fraudster. He has not blown taxpayers' millions on foreign dams, unusable weapons or job-creation scams. He has been found guilty of no crime by a real court, any more than has Mr Aitken. These men have been declared by the press as dishonest and unfit to act as representatives in Parliament. In each case, their constituents have drawn the appropriate conclusion. Not one of those pursued by *The Guardian* survived the hustings. They brought their profession into disrepute and their profession has dealt with them in the most emphatic way. It has struck them off.

To call the cash-for-questions affair the most "shameful and *grubby affair" in modern politics*, as does *The Independent*, is ridiculous. The *Daily Telegraph* shakes with indignation at "ambition, betrayal, backstabbing, lies". *The Times* thunders at this "damning judgment on the arrogance of power". *The Guardian* goes overboard *with self-congratulation*, treating the Downey report at the same length as it did Gordon Brown's Budget. Mr Hamilton was yesterday pictured nine times in that paper, which also pictured itself five times and its former Editor, Peter Preston, twice. Mr Hamilton may be a "serial liar". *The Guardian* is surely a serial gloater.

In the sledgehammer-anti-nut department, Sir Gordon Downey's 900 pages ranks with the Scott report on arms-to-Iraq. The effort is wholly disproportionate to the public evil. *Mr Hamilton and Mr* Smith were backbenchers. Anyone who believes such men are "running the country" is naive, as Mr Al Fayed clearly was. For Sir Gordon Downey to go to such lengths to prove that Mr Hamilton was a lobbyist's lackey is absurd. *The Guardian had already shown that*, and the electors of Tatton had agreed. The constituency's new MP, Martin Bell, not Sir Gordon, is the proof of that.

MPs have always put down questions for constituents, employers, lobbyists, friends, Uncle Tom Cobleigh and all. They are by their nature "vested interests".

I recall no outcry, no mind-numbing report, on Richard Branson's substantial accusations against British Airways for its Commons lobbying in the days of BA's then chairman, Lord King of Wartnaby. In the mid-1980s, many of the MPs who were defending BA's commercial interests were said to be receiving benefits worth thousands of pounds, with precious few declaring them. Lloyd's insurance market escaped regulation as a result of lobbying by MPs with Lloyd's interests — a rare instance of such pressure working.

Almost any MP will take money to push a cause. There is nothing *wrong in that. Most* who have other careers — which is a good thing — will push that interest shamelessly. When a banker MP *opposes a monopoly reference*, or a barrister MP opposes court audience for solicitors, or a doctor MP waves shrouds on behalf of the NHS, nobody believes that they are dispassionate. Farmer MPs are flagrant lobbyists for their financial interests. No lobbyist need pay them to "put down questions". A *thumping* cheque from the Ministry of Agriculture works the necessary *magic*.

The principal charge against Messrs Hamilton and Smith is not that they took money but that they concealed the fact from colleagues. That is indeed unethical and now against the rules. But let us keep this in proportion.

Did anybody seriously believe that the Al Fayed "taxi rank" MPs were asking questions about Mr Al Fayed out of the goodness of their hearts? Who was fooled, and to what public damage? You might as well as ask whether a financial journalist who plugs a share, a fashion writer who plugs a dress, or a motoring columnist who plugs a car has never taken so much as a Savoy lunch for free. Journalists may not be "running the country", but nor was Mr Hamilton. We are fellow travellers along this ethical highway. We all sup at the same inn.

Only MPs and journalists besotted by the self-importance of the House of Commons could respond to the revelations about cash-for-questions with the portentousness shown this week. Parliament may be constitutionally important as the electoral college of the government *of the day*. Its role in running the country, and therefore its value to the purveyors of corruption, is vastly overrated. The media loves Parliament because it is theatre. But that is form, not substance.

While journalists are poring over Ritz hotel bills, I have no doubt that far greater *sins* are lying dormant *in the procurement departments of* Whitehall and local government. Sir Gordon Downey himself was government auditor for six years in the 1980s. *I cannot believe he never* met anything as awful as Mr Hamilton's £25,000, to merit six months and 900 censorious pages. I wonder what horrors in local government and the NHS are daily ignored by the Audit Commission as being too tedious to investigate. Perhaps these guardians of public morality might now turn their gaze on defence purchasing, drugs licensing, government property disposal, privatisation consultancy.

Or perhaps not. They are boring subjects. The Hamilton affair is exhilarating because it concerns the self-esteem of the British political class. It has little to do with the better government of Britain.

Saving face

STEVEN SPIELBERG must be having second thoughts about coming to Britain to shoot his latest film, *Saving Private Ryan*, a wartime drama starring Tom Hanks.

In Hertfordshire, where workers are building a French town for the film, Spielberg is having to deal with a truculent BECTU, the Broadcasting Entertainment Cinematograph and Theatre Union. Meanwhile in Ireland, two of his extras drafted in from the Irish Army reservists landed in hospital this week.

The pair were hurried to Wexford General Hospital the other day suffering from hypothermia after spending most of the day in the Irish Sea. Their condition was precipitated when it was instructed that their wetsuits be made smaller after they became visible under the extras' costumes.

BECTU is complaining that Spielberg's company is underpaying workers building the replica French town, and that the company is refusing to hold pay negotiations. The union is now holding a ballot on whether to strike.

Spielberg must be wishing they showed more of the *sang froid* of the Irish. "Our two chaps were in and out of the ocean all day," said Commandant Dechlan Carbury, the Reserves' press officer. "They're back at work already."

"You've got an advanced case of brassneck, Mr Hamilton"

DIARY

● *Comforting news for the many anarchic Tories feeling left out by the rise of Hague, the management consultant. They could soon have their own magazine. Hywel Williams, John Redwood's former henchman, is putting out feelers about setting up a new magazine along the lines of the* National Review *run by William F. Buckley in America. All those who deserted from Redwood to Hague in the last round of the Tory leadership election should beware.*

Heil Neil

AS a young Tory, Neil Hamilton, the former MP for Tatton, displayed a provocative interest in the politically outré by accepting the hospitality of the Italian MSI party, which boasted a Mussolini or two in its ranks. In the evidence he gave to Sir Gordon Downey, whose report came out on Thursday, he showed that his interest in the great dictators has not waned.

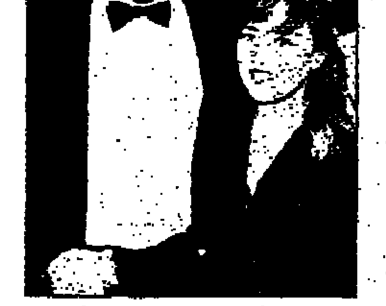
On page 183, paragraph 36 of the report, he attacks Mohamed Al Fayed, accusing him of the tactical use of the big lie. "Hitler explained the psychology of this with compelling clarity in *Mein Kampf*," Hamilton told Downey, before launching into an extended quote from the Führer's work: "'In the big lie there is always a certain force of credibility: the broad masses of a nation ... more readily fall victims to the big lie than the small lie, since they themselves often tell small lies in little matters, but would be ashamed to resort to large-scale falsehoods."

He ends his quote from Hitler: "'The grossly impudent lie always leaves traces, even after it has been nailed down."

Capital move

BREAKING with her family's musical tradition is Imogen Lloyd Webber, the daughter of Lord Lloyd-Webber, who has just started life as a journalist. She is working on the Londoner's Diary, the gossip column in the London *Evening Standard*.

She has been there for two weeks now, and by all accounts is proving rather good and unsqueamish about using her father's high-level contacts book. When approached about his new recruit yesterday, however, the Londoner was terse: "We're terribly sorry. Imogen is far too busy to talk to you."

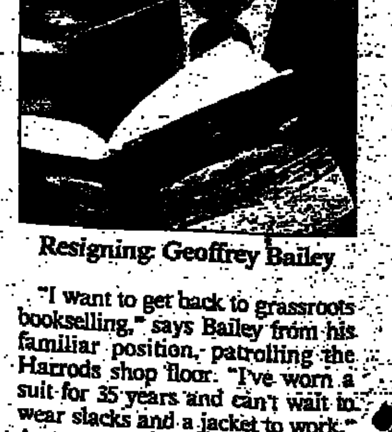


Gossip: Imogen Lloyd Webber

● *Incessant rain was the just one of the problems facing Sir Geoffrey Cass, the president of the Lawn Tennis Association, at Wimbledon this week. As he pondered the scheduling hell, the exit of Henman and the possibility of his tournament heading into a third week, it was the last thing he needed to climb into his car and reverse it straight into the car belonging to his friend, the former LTA president John Robbins.*

New leaf

EXPECT no more than a faint tremble of the upper lip next month when Geoffrey Bailey resigns his post as keeper of the Royal Family's book accounts after 35 years of service. Bailey, who worked for 23 years at Hatchards in Piccadilly before moving to Waterstone's in Harrods, is moving to Bedford Street in Covent Garden where he will run Crime in Store, a new bookshop owned by a syndicate of crime novelists led by Frances Fyfield, Colin Dexter and Minette Walters.



Resigning: Geoffrey Bailey

"I want to get back to grassroots bookselling," says Bailey from his familiar position, patrolling the Harrods shop floor. "I've worn a suit for 35 years and can't wait to wear slacks and a jacket to work." An expert on European royalty, Bailey will not be taking the royal accounts with him. They were never very heavy on detective fiction.

P·H·S

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THE ERMINE AND THE FOX

Conservatives must beware positions that tie them to the past

For supporters of the Conservative Party these are difficult days. The study of recent history is lowering; the study of the present, for all their desire that the country should prosper, is frustrating. As for the future, they can draw hope only from the resilience and adadaptability of their party's best days. At the end of a week in which a Labour Chancellor has enjoyed the praise from business that Tories had long given up hoping for, the Conservative Party should look back to other occasions when it mounted a recovery.

Exactly one hundred years ago the towering figure of 20th-century Conservatism, Winston Churchill, made his first foray into politics. The occasion is marked on Monday with a lunch at Claverton Manor near Bath, where Churchill first spoke in public and which is home, appropriately given his background and views, to the American Museum in Britain. In 1897 the Tory party was in power and the Empire at its zenith. Churchill was at pains, however, to remind his audience of the difficulties both had endured.

Just as Tories now look back 18 years and wonder how a party that has achieved so much can be thought so little of, Churchill took his listeners back a similar span to consider the vagaries of political fortune. "In 1880," he explained, "the Tory party was crushed, broken and disheartened, its principles were unpopular, its numbers were few and it appeared to be on the verge of extinction." And yet it recovered.

Churchill gave credit for the "revolution in public opinion" which saw the Tories recover to their instinct for liberty, a revived ability to appeal to every class and an overhauled organisation which, through the Primrose League, turned the party into a mass movement. He recognised above all, however, the importance of taking the fight to the opponent. The Tories today, in contrast, seem still to believe that Labour will do their work for them. Having grown used to a Labour Party with policies which offended common sense the Tories became, and remain, complacent. The Tories expected Labour to fumble in the long run-up to this year's election campaign, to crack during it, to demonstrate their inexperience early in office and to bring in a budget which would end their honeymoon with the voters. But this Government does not lead with its chin. It has the sense of direction necessary to anticipate, and overcome, "events".

The Tories still appear to feel that they were the victims of "events", from the ERM collapse to the Hamilton debacle, which fell like thunderbolts from a cloudless sky. They were, however, culpable because they failed to make the weather.

From management of the currency to management of the party, the Tory leadership failed to foresee the eminently foreseeable and forfeited its right to govern. The Tories could find themselves, like Labour in the Fifties, having won the argument, their heirs occupying the commanding heights of the academy, but out of power unless they make themselves modern. If the Tories become identified in the public mind as the party of the fatcat, foxhunter and fifth Viscount Ffrenchingham they will find their support restricted to the Cayman Islands, the Quorn and *Debrett's*.

The Conservative Party exists to defend capitalism, the free man's exercise of traditional liberties and a balanced constitution; but it must not allow the nature of its defence to be defined by its enemies. In opposing Labour's plans for the Lords the Tories must follow the thinking of writers such as Ferdinand Mount. They must propose their own reforms to give the second chamber new authority to revise without it becoming a rival to the Commons. Wrapping themselves in ermine will not suffice.

Labour is advancing on a broad front. But weaknesses will inevitably appear. Labour's willingness to ride the tide of European integration will make it difficult to meet the competitive challenge from the East. Labour may will the right end in education and welfare, but it still finds uncongenial the market means which are the best guarantee of success. If the Tories can develop a convincing critique, a set of policies which speak to a new, more liberal generation and a modern rhetorical case for Britain as a global trading nation as powerful as the old imperial message of the Primrose League, then they may find that the Churchills of the next century emerge in their ranks.

LADY C'S HUSBAND

Marriage to Sir Terence can't have been no soufflé

A pinch of spice livened up Britain's breakfast tables yesterday as the story of the cook, the designer, his wife and his lovers gripped the *focaccia*-feeding classes. The divorce of Sir Terence and Lady Conran, illustrated by pictures of them standing in their immaculate kitchen under hanging saucepans and dried herbs, has been almost too tasty to be true.

All the ingredients of a Jilly Cooper novel were there: the man-of-affairs, a pair of old-school ties, houses in Belgravia and France, an admiring judge and, threading through the story, a journey from flatpack furniture to stylish sofa. The couple who began life bohemian but poor ended with glamour, huge riches and fame. But the man who had made such a success of his life suffered repeated failure at its marital core.

Lady Conran did at least tolerate what Mr Justice Wilson called Sir Terence's "healthy ego" for 33 years. She bore him three children and helped him to build up Habitat while, because of the pressures of Sir Terence's work, "the parental role was cast with unusual weight on the wife's shoulders". As a recognition for what the judge called her "outstanding contribution" to the marriage and the business, he awarded her a settlement of £10.5 million, about an eighth of Sir Terence's fortune.

Mr Justice Wilson has made a point of upholding women's legal rights. In this case, Lady Conran found her champion. She was, according to the judge, "beautiful, creative and instinctively stylish". Sir Terence, meanwhile, received a withering rebuke: "It can be difficult for a man with a healthy ego who has achieved a vertiginous success to look down and discern a contribution other than his own."

The judge's strictures made not a dent on this unassailable ego. Sir Terence immediately dismissed any suggestion that his former wife had helped him: "The figure is unbelievable just because she cooked a few meals now and again and wrote a few books." The woman who wrote "a few books" was actually one of the most influential food journalists in Britain. But Sir Terence could not resist adding a dash of bitters to the judge's sweet words. "I taught her how to cook," he insisted. If a Le Creuset frying pan had ever flown his way, it would hardly be surprising.

In a marriage to a man as driven as Sir Terence, there is not room for two career-maximisers. Men who work that hard and devote so little time to their home and family demand a spouse who is there to do all the chores. This task, however, is not trivial. It deserves reward. An eighth of Sir Terence's riches seems a small price to pay for 33 years of cooking, caring and ego-stroking.

LITERARY GOLDMINE MYSTERY

'Elementary', said the hero to his obtuse companion

"Hand me *Bradshaw's*, Watson" cried the great detective. "I have no doubt that your invaluable railway guide will inform us how to travel to Crowborough, even though it ceased publication a century before Connex assumed the management of the lines to the South Coast. For we have no time to lose."

This was the blustery first Saturday of an unseasonally wet July. Sherlock Holmes and our humble lodgings at 221B Baker Street were unchanged, frozen in time around 1895. But seldom had I observed a more intense look of concentration on my old friend's face as he pored over the well-thumbed volume. It had been the starting point for the cases which have given Holmes an uncanny life that persists beyond the page. "I shall accompany you, of course," said I. "But what takes us with such desperate urgency to Crowborough? Great Heavens, Holmes! You do not mean that there has been a reappearance of the Sussex Vampire, 100 years after its first appearance?"

"That thought had crossed my mind, but I soon dismissed it," replied Holmes with a complacent smile. "For why should a case of apparent vampirism attract thousands of visitors from as far away as Japan and California to a quiet hilltop town on the Sussex Weald, notable only for its Barratt houses? You need not trouble yourself to look in your notes. I have been through all the intellectual pilgrimages that have taken us to Sussex. From *The Valley of Fear* to Black Peter, who was found impaled on a wall by a harpoon in a cabin in the garden of his retirement home near Crowborough. But I find no explanation for this sudden mass migration there of Holmesians."

"Have we finally met our Dunkirk?" I cried. "How often have I said to you that when you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however absurd, must be the truth?" exclaimed Holmes, impatiently. "Think Watson. What does Crowborough mean to you?" "Sir Arthur," I replied, after long deliberation. "Precisely," cried Holmes. "Sir Arthur Conan Doyle spent the last 23 years of his life at Crowborough, protesting excessively at being known only as the creator of my little adventures which you have written up with such flattering admiration."

"Other places reap the benefits from our immortal history of brilliant detective with an obtuse sidekick," he continued. "Baker Street is awash with Mrs Hudson's tearooms and emporia for Moriarty memorabilia. The Swiss Tourist Board arranges lucrative tours in fancy dress to the Reichenbach Falls. So now Crowborough has decided to join the party. It is holding the first Sherlock Holmes world festival. There are to be Hound of the Baskervilles dog shows and a Sherlock Holmes vintage from the local vineyard. The only mystery is why Crowborough has not thought of such a profitable scheme before. Now, Watson, tourism is your department. Summon a hansom cab. We cannot let literary truth steal the thunder of our long romance."

"Wonderful," I ejaculated. "Elementary," said he again, in his authentic catchphrase.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Howard and the Amsterdam treaty

From Sir Christopher Chataway

Sir, Why does Michael Howard ("We demand a voice on Amsterdam", July 1) tolerate our continuing membership of the EU? Among the horrors of the Amsterdam treaty, he explains, is a provision enabling members to suspend the rights of an EU state found guilty of seriously and persistently breaching "the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law".

To some of us, foolish and trusting souls, this seemed quite a good idea. But we were obviously duped.

These foreigners clearly will stop at nothing. Why does Mr Howard want to be in any club with them? Or does he?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER CHATAWAY,
The Garrick Club,
Garrick Street, WC2.

From the Director of the European Movement — United Kingdom

Sir, Michael Howard builds up the Amsterdam treaty as a great threat to Britain to justify the need for a referendum in a way that rewrites the Conservative Party's own creditable track record with the Single European Act and Maastricht treaty, and distorts the facts about the Treaty of Amsterdam.

Qualified majority voting has been extended in a few modest ways in the new treaty, but nothing like as extensively as those agreed by Margaret Thatcher in the Single European Act. The powers of the European Parliament have indeed been increased, but not at the expense of Westminster.

The European Parliament's powers are designed to hold the Commission to account more effectively and to balance the Council of Ministers by providing more detailed legislative and democratic scrutiny. This is again not a new idea. Such reforms featured prominently in both the Single European Act and the Maastricht treaty.

Mr Howard argues that "it does not take much imagination" to see how the suspension of voting rights on the grounds of human rights violations can be invoked to avoid national vetoes. Actually it takes an extraordinary leap of imagination, fuelled by the worst kind of paranoia. This clause is only intended for a case where a future new member state from Central or Eastern Europe were to revert to undemocratic measures. All current member states veto proposals from time to time. The idea that they would use this clause to avoid the veto of one amongst them is fanciful in the extreme.

A referendum would of course be useful as a way of clearing the air about the European issue and getting some real facts into the debate. After all, a vote for or against the Amsterdam treaty would be a vote for or against our continued membership of the EU. There would no doubt be an overwhelming majority in favour.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN WOODARD,
Director, European Movement —
United Kingdom,
Dean Bradley House,
52 Horseferry Road, SW1.
July 1.

From Lord Taverne, QC

Sir, Michael Howard makes the extraordinary suggestion that our EU partners might circumvent our use of the veto by somehow treating differences over anti-terrorist or immigration legislation as an abuse of human rights.

The EU's effective functioning depends not only on a sensible and reasonable interpretation of the provisions of the treaties, but on a relationship of mutual trust and co-operation. If Mr Howard really believes that our partners might act in the way he suggests, he must also believe that we should not be in the EU at all.

Yours faithfully,
DICK TAVERNE,
House of Lords.
July 2.

From Mr P. N. Beukers

Sir, Michael Howard's opinions seem to be more like Sir James Goldsmith than Sir James Goldsmith himself. What a great pity Mr Howard's party and his Prime Minister did not express the selfsame opinions *before* the general election.

Yours faithfully,
P. N. BEUKERS,
Meadowvale,
9 Correnden Road, Tonbridge, Kent.
July 1.

Helping hands

From the Reverend Jonathan Smith

Sir, Just the reading of Jan Herbert's multifarious hostess duties as the wife of a bishop (letter, July 4) induces a state of exhaustion. I offer this advice, which has always served me well: invite to your home only those whose company invigorates and refreshes you, and extend the fellowship to the kitchen afterwards.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN SMITH,
The Vicarage, 5 St John's Road,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire.
July 4.

Weekend Money letters, page 37

Motivation behind Orange marches

From Lord Kilbracken

Sir, Professor Mike Brogden writes from Queen's University, Belfast (July 3; see also letter, July 4), that Orange marches are intended to drive home the point that "northern Catholics ... are intruders into the 'normal' society, and should pack their bags and return to some spurious homeland".

He is mistaken. The Orangemen know well that it is they who came as intruders and that Northern Ireland was the far from spurious homeland of the nationalists.

The purpose of their marches is to emphasise and reassert the position of dominance and privilege enjoyed by the intruders ever since, and to express their demand that it will continue.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KILBRACKEN,
House of Lords.
July 3.

From Professor Emeritus G. J. Hand

Sir, I have read with much sympathy the letter of Professor Mike Brogden. (I am ancestrally Roman Catholic, with significant Anglican and Presbyterian elements).

But, distasteful though such a view must be in the context of the clearly provocative actions of the Orange Lodges, it is difficult to avoid the reasoning of O'Brien, J., in *R v Justices of Londonderry* (1891) 28 LR Ir 440, at 450:

> If danger arises from the exercise of lawful rights resulting in a breach of the peace, the remedy is the presence of sufficient force to prevent that result, not the legal condemnation of those who exercise those rights.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY HAND
(Professor of Jurisprudence,
University of Birmingham, 1980-92),
Carnlough,
72 Granitefield,
Rochestown Avenue, Dun Laoghaire.
July 3.

From Mr J. S. Anderson

Sir, Professor Brogden is wrong in his analysis of the Orangemen's motivations. Far from being an oppressive demonstration of superiority the Orange marches are a defensive statement of a determination to resist oppression.

The Republic of Ireland remains a Roman Catholic theocratic state, and it has a constitutional obligation to annex the (non-Catholic) Orangemen. Such a proposition is abhorrent to non-Catholics, whether or not they belong to the Orange Order, and it is this aggressive Catholic stance that remains the primary obstacle to peace.

Professor Brogden fails to mention the equally unsatisfactory Green marches that accompany the Catholic intent to annex. In essence, his simplistic public order attitude is a *non-starter*.

Solutions lie in Dublin, and not in Belfast.

Yours sincerely,
J. S. ANDERSON,
Blue Slates Farm,
Leyland Lane, Ulnes Walton,
Leyland, Lancashire.
July 3.

Remembering BA's golden past

From Mr Bernard Kilroy

Sir, Both sides in the BA dispute are being accused of "travelling back in time" in their industrial relations (leading article, "Air turbulence", July 2). In fact, only ten years ago BA was upheld as a model organisational culture which those of us involved in MBA tutoring have used for many years. It is the decline from *that* situation which is the tragedy.

The customer satisfaction which made BA the "world's favourite airline" was the result of an intensive company-wide programme for "releasing staff to use *their* judgment and initiative and by redefining professionalism", to quote from an internal report from the 1980s. Previously, there had been "a classic vicious circle": frustrated by management procedures, staff had been making unrealistic demands on themselves in an effort to please. This created "the expectation of failure and dissatisfaction which became self-reinforcing".

Now the wheel has turned full circle. In 1997, staff are being asked to put customer satisfaction first but are being disempowered. A culture in which employees were once treated as partners is being replaced by one in which they are clearly subordinates, even threatened with legal action. "Putting people first" had depended on a psychological contract of mutual respect inside the company, repeated at all levels, and the prerequisite for consideration towards passengers.

All of us are stakeholders in BA — as a nation or as individuals working for any organisation. As an exemplary employer it has been an inspiration, with a transforming leadership, beloved by the media and a case study for business schools. As such, BA has been a *national ethical asset*. Its reputation will now have a polluting effect on the business environment.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KILROY,
10 Hunts Common,
Hartley Wintney, Hampshire.

From Mr Stephen Charles

Sir, Your first leader today says that "before privatisation BA was an *industrial museum of antiquated* working practices".

I am a retired pilot with BOAC and BA, and am proud to have spent my working life with the nation's airline at that time. We had a dual role — to build a great British airline and to introduce into service a succession of great British aircraft — the Britannia, the Comet, the VC10, the Viscount and others.

Management and staff were represented on a joint council which met regularly to sort out differences and to discuss future plans — there were disputes but they seldom if ever resulted in "industrial action". When the airline was prepared for privatisation, prospective investors (including employees) queued up to buy shares.

What a sad contrast with the position today, when 72 per cent of ground and cabin employees (no longer "staff") are obviously completely disenchanted with their managers.

Sincerely,
STEPHEN CHARLES
(Senior Captain First Class,
British Airways, 1968-75),
Long Fen, Church Street,
Great Maplestead, Halstead, Essex.
July 2.

Lindisfarne Gospels

From Sir John Cotterell

Sir, I write in support of those who wish the Lindisfarne Gospels to be returned to the North East (report and leading article, July 3).

Thanks to the generosity of J. Paul Getty and the National Heritage Memorial Fund, the Mappa Mundi and the Chained Library will remain in Hereford, which is where they belong. They are housed in a magnificent new library and are a great asset to the city and have given a much needed boost to the local economy.

We were very grateful for the help and advice we received from the British Library during the construction of the library but its suggestion that as a national treasure the Lindisfarne Gospels can only be appropriately housed in London is nonsense. It is, after all, the British Library not the London Library.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COTTERELL
(Chairman,
Hereford Mappa Mundi Trust),
Estate Office,
Garnons, Hereford.
July 3.

From Lady Laws

Sir, It may be of some comfort to record that since 1956 there has been a facsimile copy of the Gospels in the parish church of Holy Island, the gift of Rockford College, Illinois, to the people of Lindisfarne. Rockford College also, in 1984, founded Regent's College in London, and I have the pleasure of regularly taking students from that college to see both the Gospels in the British Library and their facsimile at the place where those Gospels were produced.

Yours faithfully,
SOPHIE LAWS
(Head of the Department of History,
Philosophy and Religion),
Regent's College, NW1.
July 3.

Lawyers' watchdogs

From the Chairman of the Compliance and Supervision Committee, Office for the Supervision of Solicitors

Sir, Mr A. G. Haynes (letter, June 30) writes that he is dissatisfied by our treatment of his complaint against the executor — a solicitor — of a will under which he was a beneficiary.

Mr Haynes's complaint could not be dealt with because it was one of professional negligence — an area for the courts, and one which this office has no power to investigate. This point was explained to Mr Haynes, and the solicitors involved have quite correctly referred the matter to their professional indemnity insurers.

Mr Haynes criticises the OSS for a lack of lay representation. We have an adjudication committee, including a substantial number of lay members who play a vital role in representing the public interest. When the OSS was established last September, the Council of the Law Society publicly guaranteed its independence in decision-making.

Since then we have adopted a more open approach to the appointment of new lay members, including the use of advertisements in national papers. Those chosen from a large number of applicants will shortly be announced by the Master of the Rolls.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL PHARAOH,
Chairman, Compliance and
Supervision Committee,
Office for the Supervision of
Solicitors,
Victoria Court, 8 Dormer Place,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.
July 1.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Further to your further letters...

From Mr Nicholas D. W. Thomas

Sir, When you published a letter from me in 1987 on the subject of aunts I, unlike Mr Adrian Taylor (letter, June 26; see also letters, July 2), received no written responses. However, a then casual acquaintance read the letter in Kathmandu a day or so later and, as a result, subsequently became my wife.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS D. W. THOMAS,
42 Church Road,
Bebington, Wirral.
July 2.

From the Honourable Julian Guest

Sir, Your correspondents today are lucky: the only response I ever got to a letter published in *The Times* was a telephone call from my Mother informing me that I had entirely spoilt her breakfast.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN GUEST,
West Grindon House,
Norham, Berwick-upon-Tweed.
July 2.

From Mr Peter Ryder

Sir, I wrote to you (using my business letterhead) last year suggesting that the Inland Revenue might have an ulterior motive with the introduction of tax self-assessment.

Within 48 hours of publication I received a notice telling me that a PAYE inspector would be visiting in a few days to inspect the payroll and PAYE records of the firm.

During the visit I asked whether it had anything to do with my letter. It hadn't, of course. Fortunately my PAYE records were accurate.

Yours sincerely
PETER RYDER,
Tor Vean,
Kenwyn Road, Truro, Cornwall.
thrall.ryder@btinternet.com

From Professor Emeritus Felix Weinberg, FRS

Sir, Whenever I have had a letter published in *The Times*, I have received a few aberrant responses penned in mauve or green ink. Ordinarily I never see coloured ink. Could there be a correlation between rationality and ink colour — a research topic for psychologists — or even a diagnostic tool?

Yours faithfully,
FELIX WEINBERG,
59 Vicarage Road, SW14.

From Mr Brian Somers

Sir, My letter about the Daft Dome of Greenwich and associated millennial follies produced a few letters of support from kindly and well-intentioned people, and rather more colourful and uninhibited communications from people plainly in need of psychiatric help, every one of whom obviously saw me as the perfect standard-bearer for his or her crusade.

Yours &c.
BRIAN SOMERS,
30 Lutterworth Road, Sunderland.

From Mrs Jacqueline Worthington

Sir, After you published a missive of mine in August 1994, which described how a ladybird had eaten a crumb of gingerbread and drunk a drop of tea off my plate, I was inundated with letters from all over the world, including one from a Belgian gentleman with a poem he had written to celebrate the ladybird's teatime visit.

Incidentally, I have since discovered that ladybirds are very fond of shortcake and chocolate biscuits as well as gingerbread.

Yours faithfully,
JACQUELINE WORTHINGTON,
27 St John's Road, Stansted, Essex.

From Professor Irving Benjamin

Sir, Last year I wrote a letter about church music. My cousin in Israel, with whom I had not been in touch for 41 years, read *The Times* that day because she could not get her usual daily paper, recognised my name and wrote to me. We then kept in contact by e-mail, and I have since been reunited, not only with her, but with two cousins in Australia and one in London.

Yours sincerely,
IRVING BENJAMIN,
16 Denmark Road, W13.
i.benjamin@kcl.ac.uk
July 2.

From Mr Tom Hewitt

Sir, You have been kind enough to publish several letters of mine down the years. Publication has invariably prompted a mixed postbag. But my most interesting response was a begging letter from a man signing himself Mahmood at an address in Marrakesh. I sent him a copy of the letters page from *The Daily Telegraph* by return.

Yours sincerely,
T. W. HEWITT,
57 Albert Road, Epsom, Surrey.

From Mr V. E. Scottpadgett Truss

Sir, My own experience is that every letter that I have written to *The Times* has prompted a response. Unfortunately in my case it has always been in the form of a small note of rejection.

Yours faithfully,
VICTOR SCOTTPADGETT TRUSS,
3b Sandpit Lane, Braintree, Essex.
July 2.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 3: The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel, this afternoon and evening visited the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards at Ballykinler, Northern Ireland.

His Royal Highness was received on arrival at Royal Air Force Aldergrove by Mr Adam Ingram MP (Minister of State for Northern Ireland).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 4: The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel, this morning continued a visit to the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards at Ballykinler, Northern Ireland.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, Army Cadet Force, this afternoon visited the Combined Cadet Force Central Camp at Cultybraggan, Perthshire, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross (Sir David Montgomery, Bt).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 4: The Princess Royal, Patron, the National Autistic Society, this morning opened the Wessex Autistic Society's Housing Development at 13-15 Barnes Lane, Beaminster, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Dorset (the Lord Digby).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Home Farm Trust, this afternoon visited the Rivendell Scheme at Chudleigh, Newton Abbot, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Devon (Lieutenant-Colonel the Earl of Morley).

The Princess Royal, President, the Rural Housing Trust, later visited Vicarage Court and opened the John Arlott Playground, Timberscombe, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset (Colonel Sir John Wills, Bt).

ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 4: The Prince of Wales this morning arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, from the Philippines.

Mr Stephen Lamport, Lieutenant Commander John Lavery RN and Miss Sandy Henney were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 4: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present this afternoon at a Garden Party given at St Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham, Middlesex, for teachers from the Commonwealth, the United States of America and Europe.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 4: The Duke of Kent, President, the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, this afternoon attended the Wimbledon Championships, London SW19.

Royal engagements

TODAY:
The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief, will visit the 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, (The Prince of Wales's) at Castlemartin Training Centre, Dyfed, at 11.00.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent will attend the ladies finals of the Wimbledon Championships at 12.30.

TOMORROW:
The Duke of Kent will attend the men's finals of the Wimbledon Championships at 12.30 and the Duchess of Kent will attend at 1.50. Princess Alexandra will attend the men's finals at 12.30.

Royal Automobile Club

Prince Michael of Kent, President of the Royal Automobile Club, read the lesson at a service of thanksgiving held on July 2, in Westminster Abbey, to mark the centenary of the organisation. The Dean of Westminster officiated. Mr Jeffrey Rose, Chairman, Mr Ian Nicholls, patrol of the year, and staff member Ms Reggina Wojciechowska gave readings. Canon Roger Royle preached the sermon.

A specially commissioned fanfare *The Knights of The Road* was played by the Band of the Parachute Regiment, conducted by Captain Ian McElligott, after the service. Over 1,200 past and present staff attended the service.

Godfrey B.W. Kent

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Godfrey Blagdon Westcott Kent, TD, will be held in St Nicholas's Church, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, on Friday, July 11, 1997, at 3.00pm.

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

At the Council Meeting of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons held after the Annual General Meeting on Friday, July 4, 1997, Dr N.T. Gorman was elected President of the College. Other Officers for the ensuing year are Professor R.S. Jones (Senior Vice-President), Dr L.A. Brown (Junior Vice-President) and Mrs P.J. Nute (Treasurer). At the Annual General Meeting, Honorary Associateship of the College was conferred upon Dr R. Esslemont, Mr J.W. Hughes and Dr E.P. Steffey. Mr P.J. Dwyer, Dr A.M. Johnston and Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior were elected Honorary Fellows of the College.

Service dinner

The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding)
Members of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) held their annual dinner at the Army and Navy Club, London, last night. Brigadier the Duke of Wellington, Colonel in Chief of the Regiment, presided. Guests included General Sir Roger Wheeler, Chief of the General Staff, and Lieutenant General S.C. Grant, Commandant RCDS. Also in attendance were Brigadier W.R. Mundell, Colonel of the Regiment, and former Colonels, General Sir Charles Huxtable and Major General D.E. Isles.

Service luncheon

Faugh-a-Ballagh Club
Colonel J.H. Coldwell Horsfall presided at the annual luncheon of the Faugh-a-Ballagh Club for former officers of The Royal Irish Fusiliers and their ladies held yesterday at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

Luncheons

Manchester Consular Association
The Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester and Mrs Timmins were received by Consul Robert Burnett-Hughes, president, and Mrs Burnett-Hughes at the annual summer luncheon of the Manchester Consular Association held yesterday at the Bridge Hotel, Prestbury.

Fruiterers' Company
Mr Derek Tullett, Master of the Fruiterers' Company, accompanied by members of the livery and their ladies, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum after he had planted fruit trees at Dale House. Mr Denis Blake-Roberts and Mr Glen Lawes were the speakers.

Weekend birthdays

Dave Allen, the comedian, will be 61 tomorrow; Geraldine James, the actress, will be 47

TODAY:
Sir Anthony Battishill, former chairman, Board of Inland Revenue, 60; Mrs Justice Bracewell, 63; Mr Mark Cox, tennis player, 54; Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, former MP, 88; Mrs Elizabeth Emanuel, fashion designer, 44; Mr P.M. Fraenkel, civil engineer, 82; Sir Anthony Goodenough, diplomat, 56; Sir Michael Hamilton, former MP, 79; Mr Philip Madoc, actor, 63; Professor Sir James Mirrlees, political economist, Cambridge University, 61; Major-General Sir Jeremy Moore, 69; Sir Ian Prosser, chairman and chief executive, Bass, 54; Sir Simon Stewart, clinical oncologist, 42; Mr P.C. Tudball, former chairman, Baltic Exchange, 64; Sir John Ure, former diplomat, 66; Mr John Wright, cricketer, 43.

TOMORROW:
Mr Vladimir Ashkenazy, pianist and conductor, 60; Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir Dick Caldwell, 90; Mr David Capel, cricketer, 34; Professor G.R. Conway, Vice-Chancellor, Sussex University, 59; Baroness Cox, 60; the Dalai Lama, 62; Professor A.G. Dickens, FBA, historian, 87; Mr Peter Glossop, baritone, 69; Sir Timothy Harford, former chairman, Kwik Save Group, 65; Mr Michael Harmer, consulting surgeon, 85; Mr Jeff King, racehorse trainer, 56; Mr William McCall, trade unionist, 68; Mr John Makepeace, designer and furniture maker, 58; Professor Barry Nicholas, FBA, former Principal, Brasenose College, Oxford, 78; Miss Mary Peters, athlete, 58; the Right Rev Simon Phipps, former Bishop of Lincoln, 76; Miss Cathryn Pope, soprano, 40; the Hon Jonathon Porritt, environmentalist, 47; Sir Charles Powell, an executive director, Matheson and Company, 56; Mr Sylvester Stallone, actor, 51; Mr Joe Wilson, MEP, 60; Mr Robin Wilson, former chairman, Headmasters' Conference, 64.

Anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: Sarah Siddons, actress, Brecon, 1755; George Borrow, writer, East Dereham, Norfolk, 1803; Phineas Barnum, showman, Bethel, Connecticut, 1810; William Thomas Stead, journalist, Embleton, Northumberland, 1849; Cecil Rhodes, financier and statesman, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, 1853; Wanda Landowska, harpsichordist, Warsaw, 1877; Dwight Davis, politician and tennis player, donor of the Davis Cup, St Louis, Missouri, 1879; Jean Cocteau, poet, novelist, film director and artist, Maisons-Lafitte, France, 1889; Georges Pompidou, President of France 1969-74, Montboudif, Auvergne, 1911.

DEATHS: Dorothea Jordan, actress, mistress of the Duke of Clarence (King William IV), St Cloud, France, 1816; Sir Stamford Raffles, founder of Singapore, London, 1826; Joseph Niepce, pioneer of photography, Chalons-sur-Marne, 1833; John Curtin, Prime Minister of Australia 1941-45, Canberra, 1945; Wilhelm Backhaus, pianist, Villach, Austria, 1969; Thomas Mboya, statesman, assassinated, Nairobi, 1969; Walter Gropius, architect, New York, 1969; Georgette Heyer, novelist, 1974.

George Hammond was appointed the first British Ambassador to the US, 1791.

The first gold sovereigns were issued in Britain, 1817.

Thomas Cook was founded, 1841.

The Rolling Stones gave a free concert in Hyde Park, 1969.

TOMORROW:
John Paul Jones, naval adventurer, Kirkbean, Dumfries, 1747; John Flaxman, sculptor, York, 1755; Alexander Wilson, ornithologist and poet, Paisley, 1766; Sir Stamford Raffles, founder of Singapore, at sea off Jamaica, 1781; Sir William Jackson Hooker, 1st director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 1841-65, Norwich, 1785; Maximilian, Archduke of Austria, Emperor of Mexico 1864-67, Vienna, 1832; Bill Haley, rock'n'roll singer, Detroit, 1925.

DEATHS: King Henry II, reigned 1153-89, Chinon, France, 1189; John Huss, religious reformer, burnt at the stake, Constance, Germany, 1415; Ludovico Ariosto, poet, Ferrara, Italy, 1533; St Thomas More, executed, London, 1535; King Edward VI, reigned 1547-53, Greenwich, 1553; Michael Bruce, poet, Kinnesswood, Tayside, 1767; Granville Sharp, philanthropist, Fulham, 1813; Samuel Lover, novelist, songwriter and painter, St Helier, Jersey, 1868; Sir Edwin Chadwick, social reformer, East Sheen, Surrey, 1890; Guy de Maupassant, writer, Paris, 1893; Odilon Redon, painter, Paris, 1916; Kenneth Grahame, author of *The Wind in the Willows*, Pangborne, Berkshire, 1932; Aneurin Bevan, statesman, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, 1960; William Faulkner, novelist, Nobel laureate 1949, Oxford, Mississippi, 1962; Louis Armstrong, jazz singer and trumpeter, New York, 1971; Otto Klemperer, conductor, Zurich, 1973.

The Duke of Monmouth's forces were routed at Sedgemoor by those of James II, 1685.

Brooklands, the first purpose-built motor racing circuit, was opened in Surrey, 1907.

Malawi became a republic, 1966.

An explosion onboard the oilrig Piper Alpha killed 167 men, 1988.

Memorial service

The Hon George Leslie Melville
A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Hon George David Leslie Melville was held yesterday at Kincardine O'Neil Parish Church. The Rev James Anderson officiated. The Rev Ross Roydon of the Scottish Episcopal Church, and Mr Charles Savory and Miss Amelia Savory, grandchildren, said prayers. The Viscount of Arbuthnott, KT, gave an address.

Dinner

London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association
The Lord Chief Justice was the principal guest and speaker at the annual dinner of the London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr Robert Pascoe, president, was in the chair.

Saddlers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Saddlers' Company for the ensuing year:

Master, Mr E.J. Pearson; Key Warden, Mr D.S. Snowden; Quarter Warden, Mr M.R. Quirk; Renter Warden, Mr M.F.S. Bullen.

Stationers and Newspaper Makers

The following have been elected officers of the Company of Stationers and Newspapers for the ensuing year:

Master, Mr Alderman and Sheriff Clive Martin; Upper Warden, Mr Vernon Sullivan; Under Warden, Mr Richard Harrison.

Church news

Westminster Abbey
The Venerable Michael John Middleton, Archdeacon of Swindon, to be appointed to the Residentiary Canonry in Westminster Abbey vacant on the resignation of Canon Colin Semper on June 30.

Church in Wales

Diocese of Monmouth
The Rev Paul Vann, Vicar of Llanrumney, has been instituted as Vicar of Machen.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.F.C. Darwall and Miss D.M. McWatters
The engagement is announced between Alexander, younger son of Captain and Mrs F.C. Darwall, of Ickford, Buckinghamshire, and Diana, younger daughter of the late Mr Michael McWatters, and of Mrs Jeremy Townsend, of Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

Mr J.S. Davidson and Miss V. King
The engagement is announced between John Davidson, of Bayswater, London, and Victoria, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher King, of Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

Mr P.F.C. de Rivaz and Miss J.R. Small
The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Nigel de Rivaz, of Hoddesdon, and Jenny, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Small, of East Barnet.

Mr M.L. Hanley and Miss C.B. Lewis
The marriage will take place today in Woolstone, Buckinghamshire, of Mr Michael Leopold Hanley, son of Martin Hanley and Susan Hanley, of Woollahra, Sydney, NSW, Australia, to Miss Claire Bethan Lewis, younger daughter of Richard Lewis and Pamela Lewis, of Buckinghamshire.

A reception will be held at Hill Farm House, Woolstone, and the honeymoon will be spent in Kenya.

Mr W. Jaffe, FRCS, and Dr S.M. Sasson
The engagement is announced between Wayne, son of Mrs Eleanor Jaffe and the late Dr Joe Jaffe, of Prestwich, Manchester, and Sandra Michelle, daughter of Mr and Mrs Yehezkel Sasson, of East Sheen, London.

Mr R. Mahapatra and Miss H. Godfrey
The engagement is announced between Rajeev, eldest son of Mr and Dr R.K. Mahapatra, of Radyr, Cardiff, and Hannah, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs W.R. Godfrey, of Didsbury, Manchester.

Mr J.R. Hickman and Miss J.L. Roper
The engagement is announced between James Richard, son of Mr Richard Hickman and the late Mrs Mary Rose Hickman, of St Brelades, Jersey, and Julie Louise, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Roper, of Stone, Staffordshire.

Dr M.D. Leney and Miss K. Pestrova
The marriage will take place today in Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge, between Dr Mark Donald Leney, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Leney, of Ashbourne, Derbyshire, and Miss Katya Pestrova, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs George Pestrovas, of Thermidos Street, Athens.

Mr C.D.N. Mason and Miss S.F. Waghorn
The engagement is announced between Campbell, son of Mrs Ruth Mason and the late Mr Roland Mason, of Orange, New South Wales, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Francis Waghorn, of Weybridge, Surrey.

Mr M.L.R. Mullins and Miss A.L. Lawrence-Mills
The engagement is announced between Mark Lovel Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Rupert d'Almada Mullins, of Lynchmere, West Sussex, and Alexandra Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Lawrence-Mills, of Stogumber, Somerset.

Mr P.J. Weir and Miss H.J. Lloyd
The engagement is announced between Patrick, elder son of Major and Mrs John Weir, of Richmond, Surrey, and Harriet, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Lloyd, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Marriage

Mr G.C. Warren and Mrs J. Goodman
The marriage took place in Shrewsbury yesterday between Mr Geoffrey Charles Warren and Mrs Judith Goodman, née Moscow.

Latest wills

Lady Morrison of Lambeth, of Rochdale, Lancashire, left estate valued at £400,661 net.
She left £500 to St Chad's Church, Rochdale; £200 to the Convent, Beechwood, Rochdale; plus shares in her estate to the Police Dependant Trust, National Police Fund, RSPCA, PDSA and the Church of England Children's Society.

Esme, Lady Ropner, of Bedale, North Yorkshire, left estate valued at £115,910 net.

Richard Arthur Loraine Hillard, retired circuit judge, of Staunton-on-Wye, Hereford, left estate valued at £651,514 net.

Church services tomorrow

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, ABERDEEN: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch; 6.30 Choral E.

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Sumsion in F, Lord in thankful love (Schubert), Rev T Scott; 3.15 Ch E, Responses (Smith), Stanfrod in B flat.

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 11 Ch Euch, Missa brevis in C (Mozart), Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Rev B Moss; 4 Ch E, Responses (Moore), Sumsion in G.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Euch; 10.30 Somme Day Service, Greater Love (Ireland), Ven A Dean; 4 Ch E, Teach me O Lord (Byrd), The Provost.

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 11 Euch, The Brecon Mass (Moore), The Dean; 3.30 E, Rogers in F, Sing we merrily unto God our strength (Campbell).

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch, Darke in F, O for a closer walk with God (Stanford); 3.30 EP.

CADEIRLAN BANGOR CATHEDRAL: 6 HC; 11 Ch Euch, This is my commandment (Tallis), Lord, we pray thee (Haydn); 3.15 Ch E, Stanford in C, O how miserable (Vaughan Williams); 6 E.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Coronation Te Deum (Walton), Set me as a seal (Walton), Rev Dr M J Chandler; 3.15 E, Responses (Duruflé), Darke in F; 6.30 E.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Darke in E, Ubi Caritas (Duruflé), Canon C Hill; 3 Railway Service, I was glad (Parry), Let all the world (Vaughan Williams), Bishop A Graham.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11.15 S Euch, Williams in G minor, The Provost; 6 Ch E, Responses (Ayleward), Purcell in G minor, The Vice Provost.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch, At the peace, Thy perfect love (Rutter), Jesu Joy of man's desiring (Bach), Canon O Conway; 11.30 Ch M, Responses (Sanders), Te Deum in A (Stanford), The Dean; 3.30 Ch E; 6.30 ES.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 11 S Euch; 3.30 E.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Dublin: 11 SE, Mass in G (Schubert), Os justi (Bruckner); 3.30 CE, Jackson in G, The Beatitudes (Part).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M, Short Service (Byrd), Rev Dr A Doig; 11.15 S Euch, Mass in G (Poulenc), Canon Jeffery; 6 E, Noble in B minor, Lord, Thou hast been our refuge (Vaughan Williams).

DERBY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, 10.45 S Euch, Jackson in G, Exsultate Justi (Viadana), The Provost; 6 Ch E, Responses (Byrd), Brewer in D, The Provost.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Ireland in F, Canon M Perry; 11 15 HC, Missa super Bell' Amfitrit altera (Lassus), O sacrum convivium (Victoria); 3.30 E, The Wilderness (Wesley), St Paul's Service (Howells).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Sumsion in F, Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Rev J Inge; 3.45 E, Wood in F, With cheerful notes (Handel).

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Tu es Petrus (Duruflé), Messe Solennelle (Langlais), The Dean; 11.15 M, Responses (Leighton), Te Deum in G (Vaughan Williams), Preb J Mapson; 3 E, Responses (Leighton), Stanford in A.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 8, 12.15, HC; 10.15 Euch, Messe Solennelle (Vierne), Canon C Morgan; 3 E, Thou knowest Lord the secrets of our hearts (Purcell), Let all the world in every corner sing (Vaughan Williams).

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa brevis (Gabrieli), Ave verum (Byrd), Rev Prof D Martin; 11.15 M, Responses (Byrd), Te Deum (Howells), Mrs S Cooper.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC; 10.30 Ordination, Noble in B minor, Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), Dr C Baxter; 3.30 E, Day in B flat, The Spirit of the Lord (Elgar), Rev T Jones.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30 Euch, Jesu, joyance of my heart (Akerman), The Precentor; 4 EP.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Jubilate in C (Britten), The Dean; 3.30 E, Responses (Rose), St Paul's Service (Howells).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Schubert in G, The Dean; 11.15 M, Short Service (Gibbons), Responses (Smith), Rev R Crossland; 3.45 E, Watson in E, The Twelve (Walton).

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Canon N Vincent; 3 Golden Wedding Service, Canon M Wolfe; 4 HC.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 M; 9 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, O sacrum convivium (Messiaen), P Yves Denis; 6.30 E, Insanae et vanae curae (Haydn), D Desvernois.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Darke in E, Ubi caritas (Easdale), The Provost; 6 Ch E, Set me as a seal (Walton), Murrill in E.

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 11 Ordination, Missa brevis (Berkeley), Canon P Oliver; 3.30 E, Responses (Byrd), Second Service (Leighton), The Dean; 6.30 NP.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M & L; 9.30 M; 10.30 Ordination, Stanford in B flat, Blessed are those servants (Moeran), Rev D Wilson; 3.30 E, Purcell in G minor.

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; 8.45 M; 9.30 Euch, Sumsion in F, Almighty God and Lord of love (Giles), The Dean; 11 Ch Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Rev P Snow; 5.30 E, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis (Howells), Rev P Driver.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 M, Responses (Smith), Britten in C; 10.30 S Euch, Schubert in G, Almighty and everlasting God (Gibbons); 3.15 E, Almighty and everlasting God (Gibbons), Ubi caritas (Duruflé).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Sarum Mass (Leighton), Dignus est Agnus (Williamson), Rev D Watson; 11.45 M, Responses (Byrd), Te Deum (Gibbons), Canon J Davies; 3 SCSA Festal E, Stanfrod in B flat, How lovely is thy dwelling place (Brahms), Canon J Davies.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Ch Euch, Missa brevis in D (Mozart), How lovely are the messengers (Mendelssohn), Rev M Kitchen; 3 Ch E, Stanford in A, Blessed city (Bairstow), Rev G Swinton; 6.30 Ch Euch, Missa Laudate Dominum (Lassus), O sacrum convivium (Byrd), Rev D Painter.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 C; 11 M, Collegium Regale (Howells), Antiphon (Britten); 3.15 E, Bairstow in D, Ascribe unto the Lord (S S Wesley).

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, St Nicholas Mass (Haydn), The Dean; 6 E, Responses (Ayleward), Second Service (Byrd), Bishop of St Germans.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 C, Bishop C James; 11 S Euch, Whitlock in G, Te Deum (Walton), Bishop C James; 6.30 E, Responses (Bielby), Greater Love (Ireland), Canon T Sharp.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC; 10 Ordination, Darke in E, Hymn to the Mother of God (Harris), Rev R Lewis; 3 E, Bairstow in D, Bring us, O Lord God (Harris), Rev R Lewis.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M Responses (Byrd), Te Deum in F (Ireland), Canon D Hutt; 11.15 Euch, Mass in G (Poulenc), Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Rev B Fenton; 3 E, Stanford in G, Faire is the heaven (Harris), Rev H Wilcox; 6.30 E, Canon D Hutt.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Collegium Regale (Howells), Tu es Petrus (Villette), Rev A K Walker; 11.30 S Euch, Missa brevis (Mozart), Pater Noster (Stanford); 3.30 E, Service for five voices (Weelkes), Laudibus in sanctis (Byrd), Dr R Baker.

YORK MINSTER: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 10 S Euch, Mass in four parts (Byrd), O sacrum convivium (Tallis), Rev R Furnell; 11.30 S Euch; 6 E, Exsultate Deo (Palestrina), Rev Dr J Toy.

ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL, Hertfordshire: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rejoice in the Lord alway (Anon), The Chaplain; 11.15 Ordination Service, Tu es Petrus (Palestrina), Rev P Hughes; 6.30 E, Responses (Archer), Dyson in C minor, The Sub Dean.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Darke in F, Dixit Maria (Hassler), Rev R Griffiths; 3.30 Ch E, Benedicite (Dyson).

ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, The Dean; 11.15 Ch M, Noble in B minor, Laudate Dominum (Mozart), The Dean.

ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Ordination, Collegium Regale (Howells), We wait for thy loving kindness (McKie), Canon Dr J Tetley; 3.30 Ch E, O Lord the maker of all things (Mundy), Responses (Byrd).

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Rorate Coeli (Haydn), Sicut erat in principio (Pergolesi), Rev J Acheampong.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 MS; 10 MS, Mass in D (Dvorak), Rev K Sands; 11.30 MS, Jubilate Deo (Walton), Rev J Williams; 8 ES, Rev K Watson.

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow), Rev N Wickham; 3.30 Ch E, St Paul's Service, And I saw a new heaven (Bairstow).

ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL, Old Aberdeen: 11 Rev D Molyneaux; 6 Rev Dr H Sefton.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, Missa in tempore belli (Haydn), How lovely is thy dwelling place (Brahms), The Dean; 3.15 E, St Paul's Service (Chapple), Zadok the Priest (Handel), Rev S Oliver.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, Ennismore Gardens, London, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy, Kievan and traditional polyphony, Met Anthony.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 11 HM, Mass in B flat (Hummel), Rev J Gaskell; 6 Wood in Friends, Rev I Davies.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Rev R Bewes; 6.30 Rev Dr J Stott.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa Pontificalis (Perosi), Ave Maria (Bruckner).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 11 C, Rev Dr P Elvy; 6 E, Rev D Bean.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH, Curzon St, W1: 11 Sunday School.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Rev S Hood; 12.20 HC; 6.30 T Fletcher/.

FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC; 11 MS, J Jennings; 5 S, Rev S Millar.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B.

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, Iverna Gdns, W8: Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 11 MS, Rev Dr L Griffiths.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 Ch E, Missa Nigra sum (Palestrina), The Rector; 6.30 E, Jackson in G minor, And I saw a new heaven (Bairstow), The Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Ch Euch, Noble in B minor, Never weather beaten sail (Parry), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Ch E, Wood in F, Faire is the heaven (Harris), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Ch Euch, Missa aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina), Tantum ergo (Fauré), Rev P Bishop.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev W A Cairns; 3 Earl Haig Service, Rev W A Cairns.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev M Robins; 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 C, Rev M Okello; 6.30 EP, Rev D Richards.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 10.30 S Euch, O sacrum convivium (Marenzio), Rev C Kevill-Davies; 12.15 HC; 6.30 E, Ave Maria (Parsons), Rev C Kevill-Davies.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 C; 11 S Euch, Short Service (Batten), Sing unto the Lord (Tye), Rev R McLaren.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Rev J Goodall.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch; 5 Ch E.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM, Mass in C (Bruckner), Fr J Hadley; 6 E.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Leighton in D, Laudate Dominum (Mozart), Rev J Ovenden; 6 Ch E, Murrill in E, Evening hymn (Gardiner).

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Missa festiva (Gretchaninoff), Beati quorum via (Stanford), Prof J Caldwell; 6.30 Healing Service, Rev J Caldwell.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 Euch, Missa brevis (Berkeley), Jubilate Deo (Walton), Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa brevis (Palestrina), Laudamus te (Bach), D B Tillyer.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner St, SW3: 8 HC; 11 M, Jubilate in C (Britten), The Lord is my Shepherd (Schubert), Rev Saville; 6.30, Nunc Dimittis (Burgon), I know that my Redeemer liveth (Handel), Rev Makower.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Reading), Te Deum (Gibbons), Rev R Ralkes; 3 E, Responses (Byrd), Rev R Ralkes.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 S Euch, Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina), Rev J G Murphy

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Jackson in G, With all our hearts (Tallis); 3.30 E, Evening Hymn (Gardiner).

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch, Stanford in C, The Chaplain.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (Smith), Te Deum in F (Dyson), The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 Ch C, Prevent us O Lord (Byrd), Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Rev P Bosher.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, Tantum ergo (De Severac), Rev C French.

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TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

In all that you do, keep the upper hand and allow no stain on your reputation. Let your life run its full course, and then, at the hour of death, distribute your property. Ecclesiasticus 33 : 22,23

BIRTHS

BIRD - On 23rd June in Perth, to Fiona (née Murray) and Stephen, a son, Maxim Sebastian Francis, a brother for Alexander, Tom, Olivia, Alasdair and Xavier.

BIXER - On July 3rd 1997, to Caroline and Danny, a son, Lewis Edward Hugo, a brother for Sidney and Claudia.

BROADHEAD - On 24th June, to Melanie and Alistair, a son, Toby Alexander, a brother for Oliver.

CLARKE - On 2nd July 1997, to Lisa (née Johnson) and Edward, a daughter, Emily Saffron.

DAVIES - On June 10th, to Elizabeth Makin and Mark Davies of Stamford, Lincs, a son, Thomas Rhys, a brother for Ellie and Maria.

DUNNE - On June 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Dave and Peggy, a son, Aedan Callaghan, a brother for Mairéad and Ian.

FIELD - On June 18th, to Clare (née Ensor) and Julian, a son, James Geoffrey, a brother for Laura.

FITZPATRICK - On July 3rd, to Clare and Robert, a son, Jack, a brother for Tom.

GEAGEA - On July 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Marianne and Joseph, a son, Marc, a brother for John and Carl.

GREEN - On 28th June to Mike and Rose of Padderborn Germany. A beautiful delightful daughter. Granddaughter for The Reverend John Cannon (Isle of Wight) and Nancy Bean.

JUDD - On 28th June, at home, to Caroline (née Daly) and Jasper, a daughter, Lily Josephine Rosemary, a sister for Archie and Hector.

MARRIOTT - On June 30th, to Tony and Gill (née Raikes), a daughter, Sophie Anne, a sister to Jonathan and Edward.

MATTEY - On June 29th at The Portland Hospital, to David and Amanda, a son, Sebastian Isaac.

McKEE - On July 1st 1997, to Arabella (née Gordon) and David, a son, Edward Hugh.

MOMAN-HART - On June 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Sophia and Rustam, a son, Alexandre Anthony.

MOORES - On July 3rd in Konstanz, Germany, to Birgit and Richard, a beautiful daughter, Lucy Marie.

NEWALL - On June 29th in Miri, Sarawak, to Alice (née Simonds) and Mark, a son, Benjamin John Ira.

PROTHERO - On 22nd May, to Teresa and William, a darling daughter, Lily Hannah May.

RAIKES - On 27th June 1997, at home to Mary (née Graham-Maw) and Paul, a son, Thomas Charles, a brother for George.

RIDLER - On July 1st at Kingston Hospital, to Victoria (née Latham) and Mark, a daughter, Lucy Ann.

ROBERTS - On 24th June, to Carole (née McKee) and Graham, a son, Benjamin James.

SAITO - On June 26th at The Portland Hospital, to Yuko and Takashi, a son, Ken, a brother for Shun. Attended by Yoshio Hotoda.

SINGLETON - On 12th June, to Rosina (née Helm) and Michael, a daughter, Elizabeth Anne Lucy, a sister for Matthew.

TILNEY - On June 25th, to Simone (née Mcgarvey) and Jon, a son, Oliver Joseph.

WALKER - On 2nd July, to Kathryn and Ian, a son, Jonathan David, a brother for Nicola, Sarah and Benjamin.

WHARMBY - On 2nd July 1997, to Sylvia (née Sillett) and Paul, a son, George Edward, a brother for Alice.

WOOLDRIDGE - On June 11th at The Portland Hospital, to Rhian and Rob, a daughter, Hannah Megan Jean.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

PROSSER:TOMLINSON - On 6th July 1957 David to Mary at All Saints, Weston. Congratulations and love from all the family.

SMITH:HENN - On 6th July 1957 Derek wedlocked to Alison, and vice versa at St Michael and All Angels (dedicatees also of Marlborough Chapel), Ruiru, Kenya. Union subsequently blessed by arrival of Katharine, Richard, Rupert (who sadly died in 1986) and Alexander. To friends, family and others we send warm greetings and love. Regrettably there will be no party due to Derek's infirmity, wonderful genuine excuse for saving cash. Love to all. Sydney Farm, Halstock, West Dorset.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

SCHULTZ:POLLOCK - On July 5th 1947 at Pinner Parish Church, Bobby to Lorna. Congratulations and love from all your family.

DEATHS

BARNES - Kaye M, widow of A.L. Barnes, of Hatford, Oxfordshire, died peacefully on 30th June, aged 82. Private funeral, no flowers.

ADAMS - Gavin David Laird, on July 3rd 1997 peacefully at home after heart surgery, aged 64 years. Dearly loved husband of Sue, uncle of Juliet and Guy, devoted stepfather of Michael, Sara, Linda and Martin, and much loved step-grandfather. Funeral service at St James's Church, St James's Road, Hampton Hill on Thursday, July 10th at 12 noon. Flowers, if you wish, to Holmes & Daughters, 161 High Street, Teddington TW11 8HH. Tel: 0181 977 9532 or donations to British & International Sailors' Society c/o the above.

BROWN - On Sunday June 29th 1997, peacefully in the John Radcliffe Hospital, after a fall at home. The Reverend Shelagh Brown, aged 67, of Wolvercote, Oxford, writer, Editor of New Daylight and Commissioning Editor of the Bible Reading Fellowship. A much loved and greatly valued friend of many, both young and old, through her writing and her deep love of people. We thank God for all she meant to us. Funeral arrangements to be announced shortly; please contact R.V. Mallett, 01865 744500. No flowers, please, but donations in her memory to be sent to the Bible Reading Fellowship, Peter's Way, Sandy Lane West, Oxford, OX4 5HG in order to establish a lasting memorial to her contribution to the Kingdom of God.

BRUN - Peacefully at home in Norfolk on 3rd July 1997 Ellen (Tippa) aged 81 years, loving wife of Henrik, mother of Olaf, Peter, Vivienne and Edward, mother-in-law of Elizabeth, Deborah, George and Anderly and adored grandmother of her twelve grandchildren. Funeral Service will take place at All Saints Church, Fring, Norfolk, on Wednesday 9th July at 2.30pm. Family flowers only.

CADOGAN - On 4th July 1997 Earl Cadogan (Bill) suddenly at Snaigow aged 83. Much loved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Private funeral; immediate family only. A memorial service will be held in London on a date to be announced.

CAREY - On July 3rd 1997, Noreen Carey of Blackheath, London. Wife of the late Dr. John Carey and beloved mother of Catherine. Deeply regretted by her many loving relatives and friends. May she rest in peace. Enquiries to Ukans (0171) 639-0252.

CLEUGH - Mary Pauline (née Goodinge) peacefully on July 2nd aged 91 years, beloved wife of the late John and greatly loved and loving mother of Colin and daughter-in-law Susan. Much adored Grannie to Emma and Virginia. Funeral Service at St John the Baptist, Little Marlow, on July 15th at 2.30 pm. Flowers and enquiries to Sawyer Funeral Service, 32 West Street, Marlow, Bucks.

DICK - George of Waterland, Rowhook, West Sussex. (Professor Emeritus, London University) died peacefully on July 3rd just before his 83rd birthday. Loved by all his family who will greatly miss him. He wished a 'family only' funeral. No flowers. Donations to Amnesty International.

ELSAS - Yvonne, née Lambert on 6th January 1927 in Saint Malo (France) died peacefully in London on July 1st 1997. Service at the West London Crematorium, Kensal Green, on Wednesday 9th July at 11 am. No flowers, donations to the Macmillan Appeal for the Pembridge Cancer Care Centre. Contact John Nodes Funeral Services tel: 0181 964 1116.

HONEY - On July 2nd at The Princess Grace Hospital, Joyce, beloved wife of Tim and mother of Ruth and Tom and devoted grandmother, after a long battle with cancer borne with immense courage. Funeral at St Peter's Church, Mount Park Road, Ealing, on Thursday 10th July at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations to Trustees of Guys and St Thomas Hospital Account Number CD001 for Cancer Research. All enquiries to W.S. Bond Funeral Directors, 19 Bond Street, Ealing W5 5AP. Tel: (0181) 567-0422.

JENKINSON - Marie-Thérèse, much loved wife of the late Ronald and mother of Marguerite, Catherine and Laurence, passed away on 3rd July 1997. Funeral Service to take place on Wednesday 9th July 1997 at St Birinus Church, Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxon, at 2 pm. Floral tributes or donations if desired for League of Friends, Littlemore Hospital or Multiple Sclerosis Society (Research) c/o J.W. Marcham & Son, 56 Wood Street, Wallingford, Oxon. OX10 0AY, tel: (01491) 836145.

KILLICK - Suddenly but peacefully, Micky, son of the late Neil and Muriel Killick and brother of the late John, Pat and Peter and of Brian. Service to take place on Friday 11th July at the Christ Prince of Peace, Weybridge at 10 am, followed by interment at Weybridge Cemetery. No flowers by his known wishes but donations if desired to St Peter's Friends c/o F.W. Chitty & Son, 46 Elmgrove Road, Weybridge, Surrey, tel: (01932) 842220.

McFARLANE - James Tennant peacefully at home on 3rd July 1997 aged 66 years. Beloved husband of Anna and father of Claudia. Enquiries to Reynolds Funeral Service, Bognor Regis, tel: (01243) 864745.

MEADOWS - P.H. (Val), CBE, MC, TD, PJG, PSB, on July 1st suddenly at dusk. Loved and admired husband of Mary, her inspiration and guide. Donations in memory to Gurkha Welfare Trust, c/o Col. Powell-Jones, 88 Baker Street, London W1M 2AX.

SMITH - On 2nd July 1997 Mollie Newlands in her 90th year, formerly of Moiben, Kenya, and latterly of Carsethorn, Dumfriesshire. Much loved and admired.

STEWART-MEIKLEJOHN - At Ninewells Hospital on July 4th 1997, Major Niall James, The Black Watch RHR. Beloved husband of Yvonne, dearly loved father of Jamie, Nicola, Roddie and loved grandfather. Private funeral. Memorial Service to be held in St Andrews during the R and A September autumn meeting.

TAYLOR - Arthur Gordon died aged 90 on May 25th. Husband of Rosalind (deceased). He will be much missed by his family and friends.

VERCOE - Richard Stephen on July 2nd at Freedom Fields Hospital, Plymouth. Cremation at Glynn Valley, Bodmin, on Thursday 10th July at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Mount Edgcumbe Hospice, if desired.

WHITTOW - Richard Forbes on July 2nd, husband of Jean, widower of Eileen, father of Alison and Marion. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St Lukes Church, Grayshott, at 2 pm on Thursday 10th July. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the "MacMillan Fund" c/o Gould & Chapman FD, Grayshott, Hindhead, Surrey GU26 6TZ.

YOUNG - Professor John Zachary aged 90 at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, on July 4th. Beloved husband of Raye and formerly of the late Phyllis. Much loved father of Simon, Cordelia and Kate and grandfather of Amelia and Angelica, Rupert, Daniel and Jasper and Gulliver and Dickon. Great-grandfather of Arthur and Chloë. Funeral at 2.30pm 10th July. Garden flowers only or donations to the Radcliffe Infirmary. Memorial Service at Magdalen College will be announced later.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BARKER - In ever loving memory of my husband A.E. Barker with whom I shared over 50 years of complete happiness. Inez.

EDENBOROUGH - Vic. Remembered with love by his family, July 6th 1992.

STURDY - Revd. John Vivian Mortland died July 6th 1996. "Dominus illuminatio mea, et salus mea, quem timebo?" Sadly missed by all the family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOURTH WAY SCHOOL in the living tradition of Gurdjieff & Ouspensky. 0181 347 5983.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION Wanted to settle an estate. If you know the whereabouts of the next-of-kin of Florence Amy Hannah Streeter, who was born in Forest Hill, London, England on February 26, 1893, daughter of John Sutton and Hannah Sutton (née North), please contact: Gwenn M. Thomas, Estate of Florence Amy Hannah Sutton, Deceased, File No. 0260162 (22) G12. Estate Administration, Vancouver Region, Office of the Public Trustee, 700-800 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 3L2.

MV BRETAGNE restaurant 14 June Brittany Ferries, would the gentleman who spoke to the lady in the black & white striped jacket, please call her 0421 640067.

SUMMER BALL 33rd of GB 11 July Hurlingham Club, London, tickets £58. 0181 410 2000.

SURVIVORS of SS "Malda". Calling old friends of the British India Steam Navigation Co, fellow survivors of SS "Malda" sunk off the coast of Orissa on Easter Monday 6th April 1942. Mr E. R. Batham 3rd RO of SS "Malda". I am on a visit to the UK and will be delighted to meet old ship-mates of BI & Asiatic. Imno Rao, tel 01932 850 310.

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BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY [illegible] Happy 40th love Elizabeth, Jeremy & Glenn xxx look under bed.

JAMES TYRONE, Happy 21st. Wishing you Health, happiness and understanding Love Dad.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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[هكذا من الأصل]

OBITUARIES

THE REV MICHAEL RANDOLPH

The Rev Michael Randolph, former *Editor-in-Chief* of the British edition of *Reader's Digest*, died on June 29 aged 72. He was born on January 2, 1925.

Michael Randolph was a master of popular journalism. He became ditor of the British edition of *eader's Digest* in 1957, when s articles were largely taken om the American parent dition. Over the years he built p the magazine's British conent and character so that, by he time he retired as Editor-n-Chief in 1988, it had chieved an ABC circulation of 6 million, a readership of even million and a unique lace on the British publishing cene.

In the teeth of considerable eservations from the American editors, he made sure that is magazine began covering mportant local issues of the ay, with articles often appearing under distinguished ylines: admirals, academics, ishops, police chiefs, Members of Parliament, trade nion leaders.

He had an uncanny ability o bring alive even the most bstruse subject for the man in he street, and was very much hands-on editor. When he proposed an article on the angers of amusement arcades, he himself spent many ours amid their garish lights n the West End so that he would have a "feel" for the lure of fruit-machines when it came to the editing.

Any trace of waffle, equivocation or obfuscation would fall victim to his thick pencil-strokes. "Rewrites" became e norm. He spent hours going through new writers' copy to ensure that they captured the *Digest*'s style. He would cheer up those daunted by the process with the remark: "Once you've got the lead anecdote right, you've done half the article."

While building up his own British edition, Randolph also edited slightly varying editions for export to India and South Africa until, with his help, they became separate editions in their own countries. In 1960 he launched *Read*, a simplified edition for Nigerians who spoke English as their second language, which prospered until the Nigerian Civil War in 1965 forced its closure.

Michael Richard Spencer Randolph was born in London, the son of a bank manager. He was educated at Merchant Taylors' School and, as a wartime evacuee, at New Rochelle High School, New York. He spent a year reading law at Oxford, before seeing war service in the Far East with the Royal Navy as a sub-lieutenant on the intelligence staff of the Eastern Fleet. While on the staff of Operation Zipper, he took the surrender of several hundred Japanese on the airfield at Port Swettenham, Malaysia. Then followed a year's attachment to the Burma Navy, as Staff Officer (Intelligence) Rangoon, and a return to England and his demob in 1947.

Rather than going back to Oxford to finish his law degree, he worked briefly for a merchant bank, then as a writer, sub-editor and features editor with various women's magazines and the now defunct *John Bull*. He joined *Reader's Digest* in 1956, becoming Editor the following year. In 1966 he became a director of the company.

Appointed deputy executive editor of the *Digest's* international editions in 1978, he travelled widely to share his professionalism and expertise with colleagues on some 40-odd other editions.

Despite this globetrotting, he found time to do much in his home village of Smarden, Kent, where he served as churchwarden and parish councillor. He was chairman and then president of the Weald of Kent Preservation Society.

He was also a council member of the British Atlantic Committee. For 12 years he served on the Press Council. He was chairman of the British Society of Magazine Editors in 1973, on the board of the Periodical Publishers Association from 1980 to 1983, and on the editorial committee of the Fédération Internationale de la Presse Périodique. In 1987 he received the president's award of the Periodical Publishers Association, and the editor of distinction award from the British Society of Magazine Editors.

When he retired from journalism in 1988, he devoted himself to two years of hard theological study. After training at Canterbury, he was made deacon in 1990 and ordained an Anglican priest in 1991. As curate and non-stipendiary minister in Smarden, he built up another wide circle of friends.

He continued to carry out his pastoral duties into his seventies, when fibrosing alveolitis gradually robbed him of his lung capacity. Yet friends who journeyed to visit him found him battling on with his customary good humour.

His interests ranged from 18th-century English porcelain to the raising of Irish donkeys. He was the inspiration behind the imaginative scheme to mark the 50th anniversary of British *Reader's Digest* by planting the magazine's circulation in crocuses at Kew Gardens. The 1.6 million-bulb carpet of colour remains a popular tourist attraction each spring.

He is survived by his wife Jenefer, whom he married in 1952, and by two sons and two daughters.

MARJORIE LINKLATER

Marjorie Linklater, campaigner for the arts, heritage and the environment in Orkney, died in Kirkwall, Orkney, on June 29 aged 88. She was born in Edinburgh on March 19, 1909.

THE life of a rural community often depends as much on the energy and commitment of a few individuals as on the quality of its local authority, or the policies of central government. The influence of Marjorie Linklater, first in the county of Ross and Cromarty and later in Orkney, can be measured by the rich legacy of causes she embraced and the many institutions she helped to create in the North of Scotland.

Her campaigns were never aggressive — she found that charm and persistence were far more effective — but they were remarkably successful. A "green" activist long before the term was coined, she fought off plans to mine uranium on the Orkney mainland and to dump nuclear waste off the island's west coast. She devoted herself, along with another formidable Orkney character, Laura Grimond, to the restoration of the 8th-century chapel of St Boniface on the island of Papa Westray; and she helped to set up the now famous St Magnus Festival, as well as the equally popular Orkney Folk Festival.

As a county councillor in Easter Ross she argued the case for rural schools, including one in the remote village of Plockton, where she secured the appointment of a celebrated headmaster, the Gaelic poet Sorley Maclean.

As chairman of the Orkney Heritage Society she was instrumental in acquiring a full-time archaeologist to preserve the island's precious prehistoric remains. And as a devoted member of the Scottish National Party, she was still, at the age of 83, prepared to set out in all weathers in search of elusive votes in that most unpromising of Nationalist territories.

Much of this she achieved in the years following the death of her husband, the novelist Eric Linklater. Throughout their long and sometimes tempestuous married life, her own ambitions had to come second to the demands of his literary career. But when he died in Aberdeenshire in 1974, she decided to strike out on her own, returning to live in Orkney, where they had begun their marriage. The seeds of her initiative and sense of adventure went back to her girlhood in Edinburgh, and a short-lived but colourful acting career on the London stage.

Born Marjorie MacIntyre, the daughter of Ian MacIntyre, a celebrated Writer to the Signet who was also Conservative MP for Edinburgh West, she was one of six children.

Educated at St George's School in Edinburgh and Downe House in Berkshire, she went on to study at RADA and act in various small West End parts. That she was a great beauty can be judged from early photographs and a fine portrait by Stanley Cursiter. She formed a friendship with the cricketer Douglas Jardine, and remembers spending long and tedious afternoons at the Oval "watching distant people in white flannels doing not very much".

Back in Edinburgh, she met Eric Linklater, then a rising young writer, and they married in 1933. He described her as the first girl he had met who could appreciate a good bottle of claret. She recognised that she had taken on a character as strong as herself. "To the end of his life he thought as he wished and spoke as he thought," she said later. Their quarrels were often loud and furious, but the marriage lasted and thrived over the years.

In 1947 the family moved to Easter Ross, where she became a county councillor, involved in education, health and conservation issues. She delighted in her unofficial title, the "lavatory queen" of Ross-shire, a description accorded her after she had campaigned for more public toilets in the area.

Her move to Orkney coincided with important initiatives, both cultural and environmental. In Stromness, the Pier Arts Centre, housed in a converted 18th-century boathouse beside the harbour, became a showcase for modern art, with Marjorie as its founder-chairman. She helped Sir Peter Maxwell Davies to create the St Magnus Festival, now in its 21st year and a leading venue for modern music; she remained its honorary vice-president. She initiated the Johnsmas Foy, which has become the festival's main literary event.

Politically, she also spread her wings. She joined the SNP and became the local agent for the veteran MEP Winnie Ewing, who said of her: "If I could have a wand and be in power in Scotland, I would have urged that she be an ambassadress." Marjorie herself was more doubtful: "I sometimes wonder whether an old woman of 80 is the best person to represent the party of tomorrow," she once said. But at heart she herself was one of its youngest supporters.

Despite the onset of cancer and heart failure, she remained active in Orkney life up to the end, her home in Kirkwall a mecca for visitors. Only the week before her death she was able to attend the last concert of the 1997 Festival. She is survived by two sons and two daughters.

GEORGE HARRISON MARKS

George Harrison Marks, film director and variety producer, died on June 27 aged 67. He was born in London on August 6, 1929.

IN THE 1950s and 1960s George Harrison Marks was infamous for making black-and-white films of young women in various states of undress. Like the people in *Health and Efficiency* magazine, which portrayed families of nudists on holiday, Marks's girls spent most of their time bouncing around with beach balls.

The films were made on lower-than-low budgets and filmed in a day, often under appalling conditions. Yet in an odd sort of way they were box-office hits, bringing what would now be termed "soft porn" to British screens.

No one in them won any Oscars for acting, and the sets were dreadful, but they had one thing going for them: Marks's commentaries. "And here's the lovely Linda," he would intone, "together with her family, by the seaside without her clothes on, completely naked and unashamed — just as nature intended." Nature clearly intended some funny things.

George Harrison Marks was born in north London and from an early age had a keen interest in variety and music-hall. As a teenager he would visit local theatres to see luminaries such as Will Hay, Gracie Fields and George Formby.

He tried his luck as a comedian in his early twenties, and formed a double act, "Harrison and Stewart", which toured the country but was not entirely a success.

A chance meeting with the model Pamela Green, who was appearing at the famous Windmill Theatre in the 1950s in semi-nude revues, prompted him to take up film-making, with Green as the star attraction. She later became his wife.

He hired, and later bought, a small cinema in Great Windmill Street in London, and the first of his films, *Naked and Unashamed*, was shown there. It drew packed audiences four times a day, with no shortage of raincoats whatever the weather. Such was its striking success that he continued to make 20-minute "shorts", which were snapped up by small cinemas throughout the country. The name Harrison Marks became for ever associated with a genre that he had created. He then developed his own film company, offering through such publications as *Plays and Players* and *Films and Filming* to supply 8mm reels to postal buyers "under a plain brown wrapper". The titles usually included the phrase "Naked and Unashamed" and confidentiality was guaranteed.

He made more than 500 of these films, and a small fortune, but he was an extravagant, lavish-spending man, often seen at expensive London restaurants and at the first nights of West End shows. For many years he was considered a rival to Soho's Paul Raymond, though Raymond was the more sophisticated of the two.

Despite the fact that by the 1970s his little films were hopelessly outdated — even period pieces — Marks was prosecuted several times for dealing in pornography. But he went on to make *Come Play With Me*, financed by David Sullivan, and ended as the publisher of low-rent, spanking videos and the deviant magazine *Kane*.

Ill-health and bad business management forced him into semi-retirement in the 1990s, but he returned to his old love of variety theatre in 1992 to present a bill at London's Shaw Theatre, starring the comedienne Joan Turner. The show attracted considerable publicity, and as a result he was asked to appear on the *Derek Jameson Breakfast Show* on BBC Radio 2 and affected to be amused when Jameson said: "I seem to remember your films from somewhere."

A raconteur and showman, he was something of an icon of his era. As he said in an interview shortly before his death: "My material was just tit and bum and very harmless. The publicity was much more lurid than you saw on the screen. I'm quite shocked to see what's on the screen these days."

He published his autobiography, *The Naked World of Harrison Marks*, which appeared in 1970.

He was married three times, is survived by all his former wives and by a daughter.

ANN LENNER

Ann Lenner, dance band singer, died on June 4 aged 84. She was born on Christmas Eve, 1912.

ANN LENNER was the first resident female singer at the Savoy Hotel.

She was born into a theatre family in Aylestone, Leicester, to Arthur and Florence Green, who performed under the stage name of Lenner. Like their parents, she and her four sisters — Judy, Rosa, Ivy and Shirley — all had strong singing voices. Judy became the singer Judy Shirley, while Ann and Ida became a successful dance act known as "the Lenner Sisters". That came to an end when Ida married, and Ann then took occasional engagements, either solo or with her parents.

In 1934 she was heard in a London nightclub by the bandleader Carroll Gibbons, who signed her up for his newly-formed Savoy Hotel Orpheans. The hotel management did not take kindly to seeing a girl on the stand, and did all it could to persuade Gibbons to dispense with her. But he refused, and she went on to broadcast regularly with the band and to become a favourite with radio listeners and record-buyers.

During her seven years with the Orpheans she recorded almost 150 titles on 78rpm records. Many of these were later rereleased on LPs, which are now much sought after by record collectors and nostalgic danceband enthusiasts. She also appeared with Carroll Gibbons's Boy Friends.

When the Blitz started, the hotel cancelled all dancing, but after a while it resumed, and the band was reformed. In the meantime, Ann had married the rising young actor Gordon Little, later commissioned in the Royal Navy, though the marriage was not to last.

As well as appearing in various troop entertainments, she had a regular spot in a BBC series during the war years called *Composer Serenade*, with the BBC Concert Orchestra, when she shared the microphone with Denny Dennis and Leslie Douglas.

During the war and for a short time afterwards she was in demand with various band leaders for concerts, dances and recordings. She could be heard on records with Louis Levy's Gaumont Orchestra, Frank Weir's Astor Club Seven, the Joe Loss Band, Maurice Winnick's Ciro's Club Band, Jay Wilbur's Recording Orchestra and many others.

But after the war many dance bands, theatres and nightclubs closed down, and work became hard to get. So she took a job in the overseas branch of the Civil Service Commission, where she stayed until retirement.

Shortly before she died, she was taken back to the Savoy for lunch, her first visit in more than 50 years, a happy piece of nostalgia. Admirers from the dance-band years continued to ask her to sing at "memory lane" concerts; she last appeared at London's Coda Club in April.

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TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

KELLY, MARGARET ROSE of 7 Fortune Grove, London NW5 died on 6 February 1997 particulars to OSMOND GAUNT & ROSE Solicitors of WINSTON HOUSE, 349 REGENTS PARK ROAD, FINCHLEY, LONDON N3 1DH (Ref: 24) before 8 September 1997

EARLEY, DOROTHY MARIA of 22A Sheen Gate Gardens, East Sheen, London SW14 7NY died on 22 May 1997 particulars to The Executor, Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, Probate Operations, 2nd Floor, Duncan House, 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield S1 3DG before 8 September 1997

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LEGAL NOTICES

COMPANY NUMBER 509200
WATLING STREET PROPERTIES LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On 2 July 1997 the above named company was placed in Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Colin Graham Bird of Price Waterhouse was appointed Liquidator by the shareholders.

The Liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the Liquidator, at No1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by 8 August 1997 which is the last day for proving claims. The Liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

All known creditors have been or will be paid in full.

Date 3 July 1997
CG Bird
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 002926 of 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF QUILTER & CO LIMITED
- and -
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 13th day of June 1997 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £20,000,000 to £12,608,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Companies Court Registrar at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 16th day of July 1997.

Any creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated the 3rd day of July 1997
LINKLATERS & PAINES
Barrington House,
59-67 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7JA
Ref:PHH
Solicitors for the above-named Company

NO. 003092 OF 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF BRITISH MIDLAND PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 20th day of June 1997 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account from £19,827,356 to £7,568,047.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 16th day of July 1997 at 10.30am.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition shall be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 2nd day of July 1997.
Hammond Suddards
Moor House
119 London Wall
London
EC2Y 5ET
Ref: ES/MB/JM/AIR.74-1
Solicitors for the above named Company

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION - PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-680 6878
OR
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

ON THIS DAY

July 5, 1976

On June 27 Palestinian terrorists hijacked an Air France Airbus shortly after take-off at Athens. It was flown to Entebbe where 98 people were held hostage. In a brilliant operation lasting less than one hour, Israeli commandos overcame the guards, killed the terrorists and freed the hostages.

ISRAEL REJOICES AT SUCCESS TO FREE ENTEBBE HOSTAGES

From Eric Marsden

TEL AVIV, JULY 4

An exultant Israel today welcomed back safely more than 100 hijack hostages, and the troops who had freed them, in one of the most spectacular and audacious commando operations in its Army's history.

News of the Army's exploit sent Israelis thunderstruck with joy at their breakfast tables. They had expected a day of tension and possible agony as the 11am (GMT) deadline approached by which the terrorists had threatened to blow up the aircraft unless 40 convicted terrorists in Israeli jails and 13 in France, West Germany, Switzerland and Kenya were released.

It is now clear that while serious in making a counter-offer to free a number of terrorists to keep negotiations in progress, Israel's leaders were working on their rescue plan anticipating a rejection of their offer.

As the news of the rescue spread, Israel staged a day of celebration. People sang and danced in the streets and parks, workers offered to put in an extra day without pay, donations poured in to Army charities and a light aircraft traced in the sky the signal *Kol Hakavod Lezaha* (all honour to Israel's defence forces).

Hundreds of relatives were waiting, singing and shouting slogans two hours before the aircraft with the freed hostages arrived from Nairobi. They were ferried to an air base near Tel Aviv for reunions. A rabbi was blowing the ram's horn piercingly. Men carrying bouquets of flowers sang patriotic songs while the women sat in the shade, many weeping . . .

A white-haired man who gave his name only as David said that when the attack began the terrorists went for their guns and one threw a grenade, but the fight was over in a few minutes. There was general agreement that though President Amin of Uganda had frequently visited the hostages and tried to encourage them, he was collaborating with the hijackers. One of the freed said that Ugandan troops had taken turns in guarding the hostages while the terrorists slept . . .

Charles Harrison writes from Nairobi: Although there is no complete information from Entebbe, reports support the Israeli claim that explosive charges were dropped at the end of the runway as a diversion, after which the three Israeli aircraft landed close to the old terminal building where the hostages were held at 1am.

The tail ramp of the transport dropped as the aircraft braked and several jeeps full of heavily armed troops roared down the ramp on to the tarmac, and reached the old terminal within seconds, killing the hijackers in a brief clash.

Once the firing stopped, the hostages were quickly marshalled on board the waiting aircraft, and the whole operation is said to have been completed within 36 minutes. The three aircraft then flew to Nairobi, where an emergency medical team had been summoned to the airport to attend to some of the wounded hostages . . .

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Broadcast from the red planet

■ Mars Pathfinder last night plunged through the Martian atmosphere, man's first visitor to the surface of the red planet for more than 20 years. Just after 6pm Flight Director Rob Manning announced to cheering scientists at mission control in Pasadena that the spacecraft had landed after a flight of 309 million miles and was broadcasting a signal. "We're down," a delighted Manning shouted out .... **Pages 1, 5, 20**

Bill of Rights by end of next year

■ A Bill of Rights will be in place by the end of next year, enabling people to seek justice in British rather than European courts for breaches of human rights. A White Paper will be published in the autumn and a Bill soon after .... **Page 1**

Patient disarmed

A woman police officer disarmed an HIV-positive patient who went berserk and threatened to stab hospital staff with a syringe contaminated with his blood .. **Page 1**

Bird of pray

Paula, the eagle owl which is devouring pigeons at St Paul's Cathedral, is at the centre of a debate about capturing birds .... **Page 3**

Observatory closes

The Royal Greenwich Observatory at Cambridge is closing with the loss of 100 jobs. Its work will be transferred to Edinburgh .. **Page 5**

Kiss of peace

The Methodist Church is worried about sexual harassment during the "peace", when worshippers are urged to hug and kiss ...... **Page 10**

Not enough rain

Despite the wettest June since 1860, large areas of southern and eastern England face summer water shortages in 1998 ... **Page 12**

Stalin's victims

Russian amateur historians claim to have uncovered three mass graves where more than 9,000 victims of Stalin's purges are believed to be buried .... **Page 14**

Under the volcano

Young Montserratians, crammed into makeshift shelters to escape the volcano, have found solace in alcohol and casual sex ...... **Page 15**

La Lollo at 70

Gina Lollobrigida, the Italian film actress, celebrated her 70th birthand said she had buried her feud with Sophia Loren ... **Page 16**

Holocaust rebuff

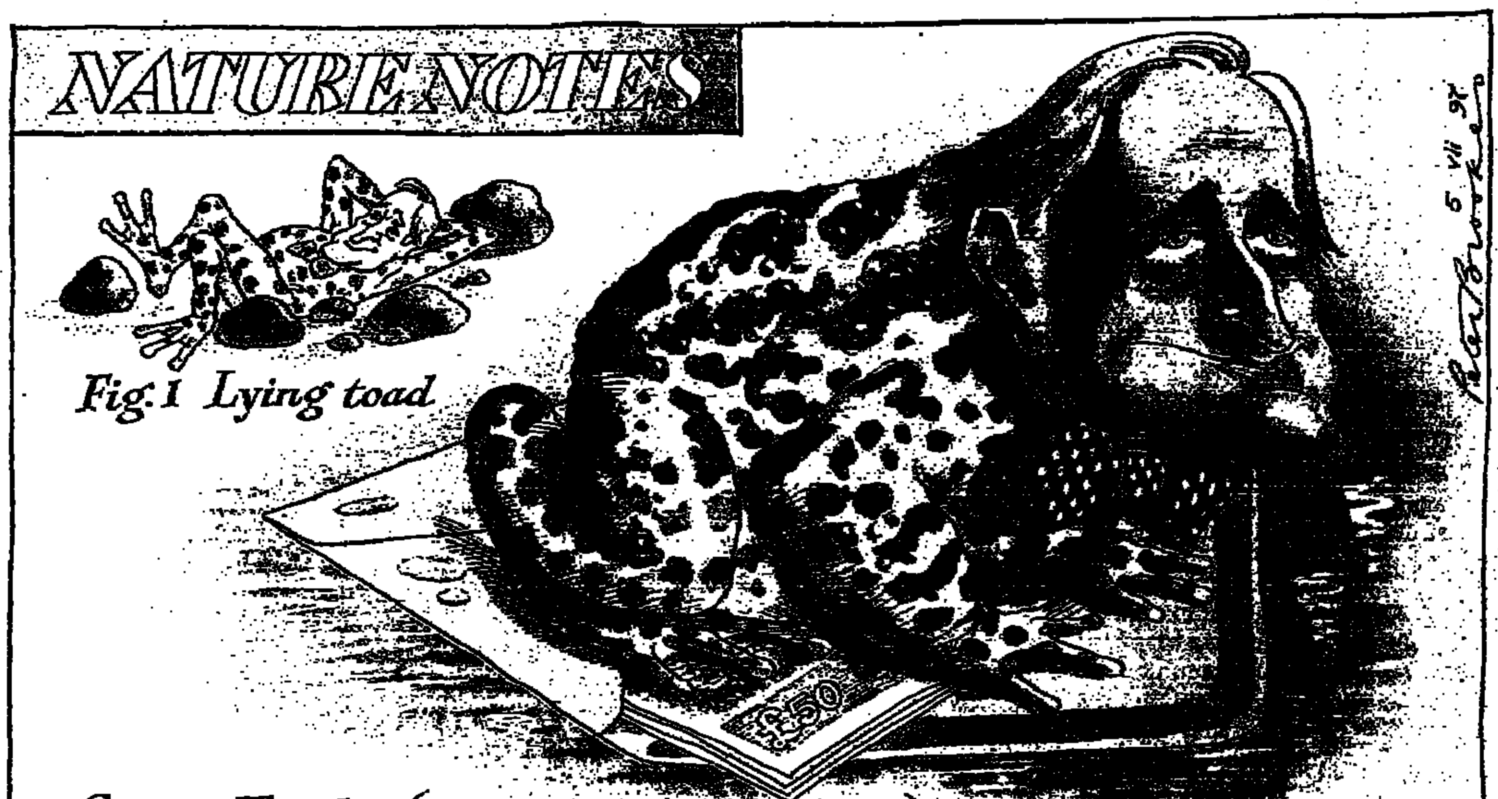
A Holocaust victim's son trying to get his father's savings from a Swiss bank in London was told it was "enemy property" .... **Page 17**

The darling of Paris

At 34, Arnaud Montebourg has a seat in the National Assembly and the adoration of the Socialist Party. The boy done good ...... **Page 18**

The Crowborough goldmine mystery

■ Crowborough in East Sussex will welcome 25,000 visitors this weekend as it cashes in on its connections with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, who lived there for 23 years. There will be local Holmes wine, Sherlock sausage and a Hound of the Baskervilles dog show .... **Pages 1, 21**



Giant Toad *(Hamiltonus corruptus)*

A species once protected by the authorities, this clammy creature crawls out from under stones to seek exposure. The female is dominant.

OPINION

Ermine and fox: If the Tories become identified as the party of the fatcat, foxhunter and fifth Viscount Ffrenchingham they will find their support restricted to the Cayman Islands, the Quorn and *Debrett's* .... **Page 21**

Lady C's husband: An eighth of Sir Terence's riches seems a small price to pay for 33 years of cooking, caring and ego-stroking .... **Page 21**

LETTERS

Amsterdam treaty; Orange marches: writing to *The Times*; BA dispute .... **Page 21**

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: Of all the hypocritical deposits to fall from the rear end of the Palace of Westminster, few equal the Downey report ... **Page 20**

Tim Hames: Americans are extraordinary people. Few others would send a space probe 300 million miles to find themselves .... **Page 20**

OBITUARIES

The Rev Michael Randolph, journalist and priest; **Marjorie Linklater,** environment campaigner; **George Harrison Marks,** film director and variety producer ...... **Page 23**

BUSINESS

Economy: City fears grew that the consumer spending boom would accelerate after it emerged that nearly a quarter of Woolwich Building Society members have decided to sell their free shares immediately .... **Page 25**

Casinos: The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is expected to approve London Clubs International's £190 million bid for the rival Capital Corporation .... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 18.9 to 4812.8. Sterling rose to 104.0 after rising to $1.6875 and DM2.9616 .... **Page 28**

SPORT

Cricket: Shane Warne took five wickets to leave England struggling at 161 for eight in the third Test, 74 runs behind Australia .... **Page 48**

Tennis: Pete Sampras, the No 1 seed, reached the men's singles final at Wimbledon with a 6-2, 6-1, 7-6 victory over Todd Woodbridge .... **Page 48**

Golf: Lee Westwood led by two strokes after the second round of the Irish Open at Druids Glen .... **Page 47**

Rugby union: The British Isles are keen to make a clean sweep of the series against South Africa .... **Page 42**

Cash question: The South Bank does need its £170 million facelift, Richard Morrison writes. But the Heritage Secretary knows "jobs for the cronies" mud will fly if Lord Rogers is given another plum lottery commission .... **Page 19**

Candide at the Gate: Benedict Nightingale enjoys a lively update of Voltaire's *Candide* at the Gate in west London .... **Page 19**

Economy drive: The car that does 2,000mpg

SECTIONS

MAGAZINE

It's your choice: picking a baby's sex .... **Page 8**
Top cricketers: .... **Page 21**
Summer wines .... **Page 46**
Jan Morris .... **Page 27**

Weekend

Cool capital: Is London the hippest city? .... **Page 1**

Property: Prep school for sale .... **Pages 7, 8**
Travel: Paris; South Africa; Hungary .. **Pages 15-20**

10 15

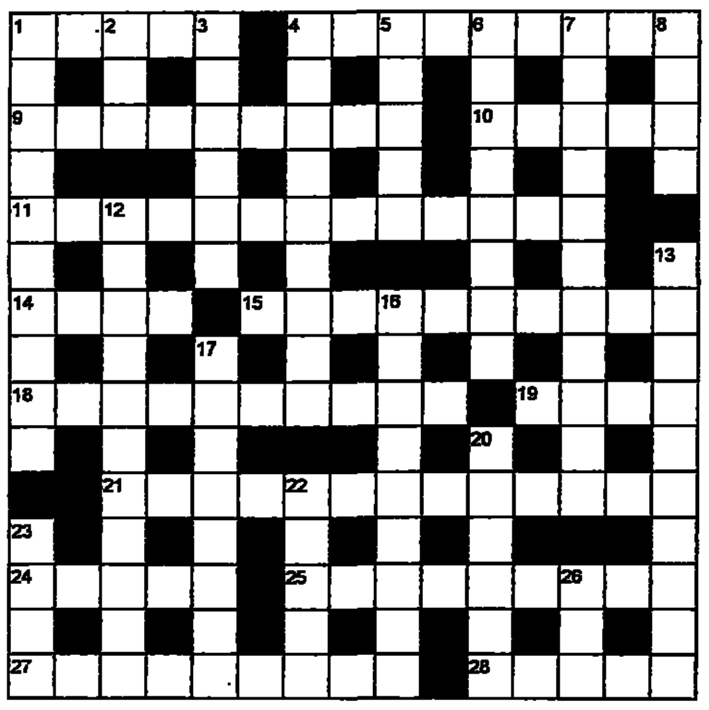
Dinomite: We preview *The Lost World* .... **Page 6**
Networking: How to spin your own web ...... **Page 10**

Bigger screen: Welcome to the megaplex .... **Page 4**
Mood food ...... **Pages 7, 8**
Beach books .. **Pages 9-14**
TV and radio .. **Pages 23-51**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,524

A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....



ACROSS

1 Musician with piano in prom (5).
4 Article in magazine that's potentially disastrous (6,3).
9 Battle against tribunal (9).
10 Express disapproval through giving the bird (5).
11 One entitled to define himself as a harmless drudge (6,7).
14 Guy's book abridged (4).
15 Not being present for the Latin class (2,8).
18 Where people learn one piece of poetry, mostly in harmony (10).
19 Story-teller's one article that's side-splitting (4).
21 Shortfall in electricity supply that could disrupt family communications? (10,3).
24 Standard of fitness it's good to idolise? (5).
25 Crewmen put down cards (5,4).
27 English reader, a learner in a sort of college (9).
28 Continue to shake in vehicle (5).

DOWN

1 Fare for day in France (4,2,4).
2 What one's written after letter one's written after letter (3).
3 Pay attention to cricket side's number (6).
4 Order Joan and Les up for a dance (4,5).
5 Dangerous woman accompanying Conservative inside (5).
6 Produced relief work with half of them given orders (8).
7 Ignorant type making part of lock now, not hinge (4-7).
8 European painter unknown in part of India (4).
12 Dedider after draw, with players given to being disorderly (7,4).
13 Courteous in requesting fare? (4-6).
16 Use it to dry one's face — and below that all over the place (4,5).
17 Control horse with something worn to plough back (8).
20 Don't buy this author (6).
22 Drawing instrument found amongst dividers? (5).
23 Fit to enter university in time (4).
26 Amount of work that's so never-ending (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,518

F	I	R	E	S	I	D	E		C	A	S	B	A	H
E		A		N		O				G		I		U
T	A	N	T	A	L	U	S		P	O	M	P	O	M
E		K		R		B		J		G		A		I
			W	E	L	L	F	A	V	O	U	R	E	D
F		N		D		E		C				T		I
O	S	I	E	R		G	O	O	D	G	R	I	E	F
R		G		U		L		B		R		S		I
B	O	H	E	M	I	A	N	S		U	K	A	S	E
I		T				Z		L		E		N		R
D	I	S	A	G	R	E	E	A	B	L	E			
D		H		E		D		D		L		D		H
I	R	I	S	E	S		A	D	D	I	T	I	V	E
N		F		S				E		N		V		A
G	A	T	H	E	R		P	R	E	G	N	A	N	T

Solution to Puzzle No 20,523

C	L	I	M	A	X		L	E	F	T	W	I	N	G
	A		A		R		I		I		E		O	
N	U	T	C	R	A	C	K	E	R		N	E	C	K
	R		E		Y		E		E		D		T	
F	A	I	R	R	E	N	T		W	A	Y	O	U	T
			A		D		H		O				R	
O	B	I	T				E	A	R	T	H	I	N	G
	L		E		W		C		K		O		A	
W	I	N	D	F	A	L	L				L	U	L	L
	N				S		A		H		E			
A	D	R	I	F	T		P	R	O	V	I	N	C	E
	D		N		E		P		T		N		L	
M	A	R	C		F	R	E	E	B	O	O	T	E	R
	T		A		U		R		E		N		A	
R	E	Y	N	O	L	D	S		D	U	E	N	N	A

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *I R Hall, Farnham, Surrey; J H Hargreaves, New Milton, Hampshire; A Richens, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire; A Wild, Bournemouth, Dorset; I Stratton, Warminster, Wiltshire.*

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 4.51 am — Sun sets: 9.19 pm
Moon sets 9.23 pm — Moon rises 5.50 am

First quarter July 12

London 9.19 pm to 4.52 am
Bristol 9.29 pm to 5.02 am
Edinburgh 9.59 pm to 4.36 am
Manchester 9.39 pm to 4.49 am
Penzance 9.34 pm to 5.20 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 4.52 am — Sun sets: 9.19 pm
Moon sets 9.59 pm — Moon rises 6.49 am

First quarter July 12

London 9.19 pm to 4.53 am
Bristol 9.29 pm to 5.02 am
Edinburgh 9.58 pm to 4.37 am
Manchester 9.38 pm to 4.50 am
Penzance 9.33 pm to 5.21 am

HIGH TIDES

London Bridge	03.00	6.8	15.21	6.9
Aberdeen	02.24	4.2	14.50	4.0
Avonmouth	08.29	12.6	20.45	12.7
Belfast	-	-	12.24	3.2
Cardiff	08.15	11.6	20.31	11.8
Devonport	07.06	5.1	19.21	5.3
Dover	-	-	12.19	6.5
Dublin (N Wall)	00.39	4.1	12.57	3.9
Falmouth	06.37	4.9	18.52	5.1
Greenock	01.23	3.3	14.08	3.1
Harwich	00.50	3.8	13.10	3.9
Holyhead	11.39	5.3	23.56	5.5
Hull (Albert D)	07.30	8.3	19.56	8.2
Ilfracombe	07.11	8.7	19.27	8.9
King's Lynn	07.32	6.4	19.53	6.2
Leith	03.45	5.4	16.07	5.3
Liverpool	00.11	9.1	12.32	9.0
Lowestoft	10.40	2.5	23.15	2.4
Margate	01.05	4.4	13.21	4.5
Milford Haven	07.27	6.5	19.45	6.7
Newquay	06.18	6.6	18.36	6.7
Oban	07.04	3.6	19.07	3.8
Penzance	05.47	5.2	18.06	5.4
Portland	09.03	1.7	20.15	2.0
Portsmouth	00.03	4.5	12.34	4.4
Shoreham	00.04	5.9	12.33	5.9
Southampton	-	-	12.05	4.4
Swansea	07.30	9.0	19.48	9.2
Tees	04.45	5.2	17.07	5.1
Walton-on-N	00.43	3.9	13.03	4.0

All times BST. Heights in metres

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 22C (72F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 12C (54F); highest rainfall: Hayling Island, Hampshire, 0.82in; highest sunshine: Morecambe, Lancashire, 12.3hr.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

FORECAST

☐ **General:** southeast England and East Anglia may catch a shower at first before turning dry and bright. Wales and the rest of England will have sunny breaks. Sheltered eastern parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland should also have a fine day.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia:** possible showers in morning, mainly dry by afternoon with sunshine at times. Light northwesterly wind. Max 22C (72F).

☐ **Cent N & S, E, and NE England, E & W Midlands:** dry with patchy cloud and spells of sunshine. Light northwesterly wind. Max 21C (70F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW, NW England, S & N Wales, Lake Dist, Isle of Man:** dry and sunny. Light northwesterly wind. Max 20C (68F).

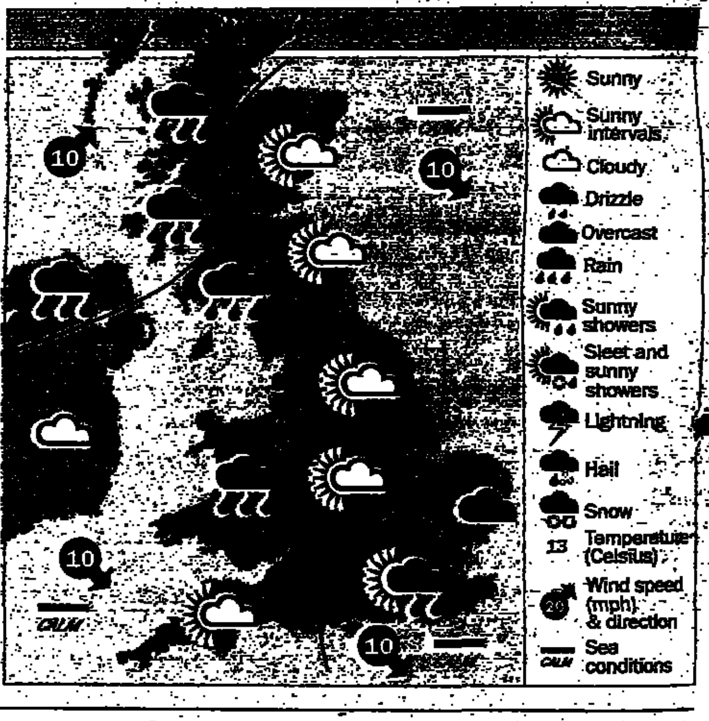
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth:** dry with hazy sunshine in morning, but clouding over in north and west later. Light to moderate southwesterly wind. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **S W Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland:** dry morning with sunny spells, clouding over later. Moderate southwesterly wind. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **NE & NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland:** early bright spells, but cloudy by afternoon with patchy rain. Freshening southwesterly wind. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Outlook:** northwest Scotland and Northern Ireland will have some cloud and light rain tomorrow, with an improvement on Monday. The rest of the country will be dry and very warm with a good deal of sunshine.

☐ **Pollen:** low in N and S Scotland, NE, SE and Cent S England, Midlands, East Anglia, and London; moderate in N Ireland, N and S Wales, and NW and SW England. (Forecast supplied by the Pollen Research Unit)



AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

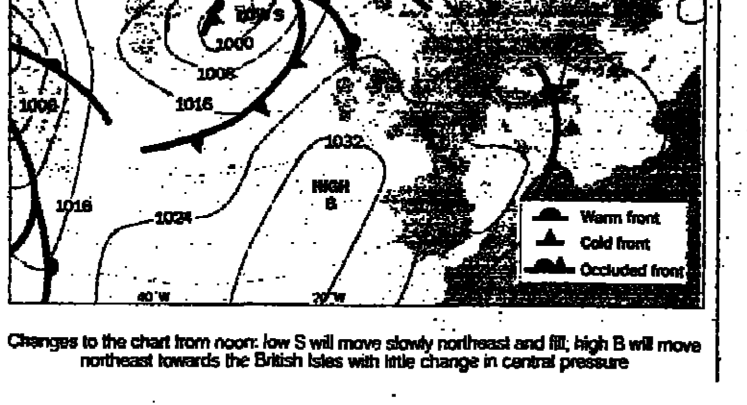
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.8	0.01	16	61	sh
Anglesey	10.1	-	17	63	s
Aspatria	6.4	0.07	18	64	s
Aviemore	1.1	0.01	17	63	c
Belfast	6.3	0.01	18	64	b
Birmingham	5.3	0.06	19	66	b
Bognor R	4.3	0.18	18	64	sh
Bournem'th	4.1	0.02	20	68	b
Bristol	7.7	-	21	70	s
Buxton	6.1	0.06	16	61	s
Cardiff	7.1	0.01	18	64	sh
Clacton	X	0.21	16	61	sh
Cleethorpes	2.0	0.05	17	63	b
Colwyn Bay	8.4	-	16	61	s
Cromer	5.2	0.02	18	64	s
Dunbar	8.4	-	18	64	b
Eastbourne	3.5	0.17	17	63	du
Edinburgh	9.2	-	20	68	s
Eskdalemuir	7.2	0.26	19	66	s
Exmouth	8.6	0.01	20	68	s
Falmouth	7.5	-	17	63	s
Fishguard	9.3	-	15	59	c
Folkestone	5.6	0.16	17	63	c
Glasgow	6.4	-	19	66	b
Guernsey	X				
Hastings	2.7	0.06	17	63	c
Hayling I	3.8	0.82	16	61	sh
Herne Bay	2.0	0.17	18	64	sh
Hove	4.1	-	17	63	c
Hunstanton	5.4	0.03	19	66	s
Isle of Man	3.7	0.04	18	64	c
Isle Of Wight	3.7	0.04	18	64	c
Jersey	4.2	0.09	18	64	s
Kinloss	1.5	0.02	18	64	d
Leeds	7.5	0.13	21	70	sh
Lerwick	X				
Leuchars	3.9	0.12	18	64	s
Littlehmptn	3.7	0.21	18	64	sh
London	2.7	0.04	19	66	c
Lowestoft	6.6	0.01	17	63	sh
Manchester	5.0	0.01	18	64	s
Margate	4.5	0.16	19	66	sh
Minehead	9.3	-	19	66	s
Morecambe	12.3	-	17	63	s
Newcastle	X				
Newquay	X				
Norwich	X				
Oxford	4.8	0.02	19	66	b
Penzance	X	0.01	19	66	s
Poole	X				
Prestatyn	X				
Ross-o-wye	4.9	-	19	66	b
Salcombe	6.8	-	21	70	b
Saunton Snd	11.3	-	18	64	s
Scarboro'	7.5	0.11	16	61	s
Shrewsbury	X				
Skegness	X				
Southend	1.7	0.15	17	63	sh
Southport	7.8	-	17	63	s
Southsea	X				
Stornoway	4.5	0.02	16	61	r
Swanage	4.6	0.28	18	64	sh
Teignmouth	8.8	0.01	21	70	s
Tenby	10.6	-	18	64	b
Tiree	X				
Torquay	9.7	-	22	72	s
Tynemouth	-	-	15	59	s
West-s-mare	X				
Weymouth	8.1	0.02	20	68	s

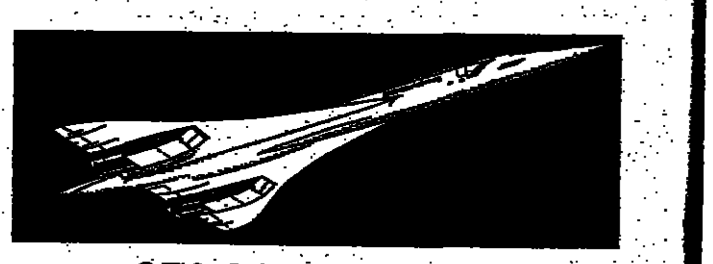
ABROAD

Ajaccio	26	79	s
Akrotiri	31	88	s
Alex'dria	29	84	s
Algiers	28	82	c
Amst'dm	18	64	f
Athens	34	93	s
B Aires	X		
Bahrain	40	104	s
Bangkok	33	91	s
Barbados	29	84	f
Barcelona	20	68	f
Beirut	29	84	s
Belgrade	32	90	s
Berlin	25	77	f
Bermuda	26	79	f
Biarritz	17	63	f
Borde'x	20	68	f
Brussels	18	64	f
Budapst	27	81	s
Cairo	35	95	s
Cape Tn	15	59	c
Ch'church	7	45	X
Chicago	21	70	f
Cologne	20	68	f
Corfu	33	91	s
C'phagn	22	72	s
Dublin	15	59	f
Dubrovnik	30	86	s
Faro	23	73	f
Florence	24	75	s
Frankfurt	19	66	c
Funchal	21	70	s
Geneva	17	63	f
Gibraltar	23	73	s
Helsinki	25	77	s
Hong K	26	79	r
Innsbrck	23	73	f
Istanbul	30	86	s
Jeddah	X		
Jo'burg	16	61	s
L Angels	26	79	s
L Palmas	25	77	f
Le Touqt	18	64	f
Lisbon	22	72	c
Locarno	15	59	r
Luxembg	16	61	c
Luxor	40	104	s
Madrid	20	68	f
Majorca	26	79	s
Malaga	26	79	s
Malta	30	86	s
Melb'rne	X		
Mexico C	21	70	f
Miami	34	93	s
Milan	22	72	f
Montreal	22	72	fg
Moscow	27	81	f
Munich	21	70	f
N Delhi	37	99	s
N York	27	81	s
Nairobi	17	63	c
Naples	32	90	f
Nice	22	72	f
Oslo	22	72	f
Paris	17	63	sh
Peking	24	75	r
Perth	X		
Prague	23	73	f
Reykjavik	9	48	d
Rhodes	33	91	s
Rio de J	31	88	s
Riyadh	41	106	s
Rome	28	82	c
S Fr'sco	19	66	s
S Paulo	19	66	s
Salzburg	21	70	f
Santiago	13	55	c
Seoul	25	77	sh
Sing'por	26	79	t
St'kholm	23	73	s
Strasb'rg	17	63	c
Sydney	X		
Tangier	24	75	f
Tel Aviv	32	90	s
Tenerife	25	77	f
Tokyo	32	90	s
Toronto	24	75	c
Tunis	32	90	s
Valencia	26	79	f
Vanc'ver	19	66	s
Venice	24	75	f
Vienna	27	81	s
Warsaw	26	79	s
Wash'ton	32	90	f
Wel'ngton	11	52	X
Zurich	18	64	c

Temperatures at midday local time on Thursday. X = not available.



Changes to the chart from noon: low S will move slowly northeast and fill; high B will move northeast towards the British Isles with little change in central pressure



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[هكذا من الأصل]

Sandy Gall within a whisker of his life
travel · 16

THE TIMES
weekend

SATURDAY JULY 5 1997

Win a house party worth £25,000
special offer · 19

'London may be hip – but your underwear scores nul points'

Jane Burton invites four young Parisians to the world's coolest city. Does it cut the mustard?

PAUL SALMON

Not so chic: our Parisian visitors were unimpressed with London style as expressed in the lingerie boutique Agent Provocateur. "Transparent things aren't sexy," they insisted

Even couch potatoes from the planet Zog must know that London is, for the moment, the centre of the style universe. The Americans proclaimed it first. *Newsweek* hailed London as the capital of cool last December but then, such is America's love affair with the mother country that some of its citizens would find a *Yorkshire pudding* chic. It means rather more, however, when the praise comes from the French.

"Le boom de Londres" has arrived, announces *Paris Match*. London is the trendiest place in Europe, says *Nova* magazine in a whole supplement inviting its readers to "allez" and "be British".

The June issue of *Dépêche Mode* waxes lyrical about the charms of the British yob and his à la mode accessories: birds, beer and le football.

Paris Match's "le swinging London" top ten includes, predictably, those "mauvais garçons" Oasis, the "belle Anglaise" Elizabeth Hurley, Ewan McGregor and Damien Hirst. And, of course, the Spice Girls, or "les filles spices". Being French, everything is cranked up a libidinal notch: Ginger Spice becomes "Sexy-Spicy" while Baby Spice is the intriguing "Lolita Perverse". As for Page 3 pin-up Melinda Messenger, you can almost hear the sigh of relief that we frigid English have thawed at last as they rhapsodise about her "triumphant bosom".

However, somewhere in the Channel fog, the wires have crossed. In a Cantona-esque flight of poetic fancy, *Paris Match* dribbles the ball neatly up a cul-de-sac and along with Britpop, Brit Fash, Brit Art and Brit Boobs, unilaterally declares the Marquis of Bath, John Cleese and Richard Branson as high priests of London hip. Excusez-moi?

Meanwhile Eurostar, which shunts about 170,000 French visitors to London each month, most of them under 40, has been cashing in with an advertising campaign in the French press promoting everything from the "ultimate clubbing experience" at the Ministry of Sound and *Ab Fab* shopping at Harvey Nichols, to curry houses. There is not a whisper about red telephone boxes, pearly kings and queens or Hogarthian sides of roast beef.

The times are obviously a-changing. So, in the interests of continental understanding, we took four young Parisians on a whistle-stop tour of London to sort their onions, or at least their [illegible] Cleeses, from their Jarvis Cockers; their Bransons from their Blurs. The willing volunteers were Marc Cosnard des Closets, 34, a cheese exporter, and his wife Gaile, 32, a graphic designer, who arrived on the Friday morning on Eurostar with their friends Cecile Bauduin-Menard, 21, and Robert Downey, 35, both actors.

The journey had been a delight, said Marc, especially the opportunity to peruse the Kent countryside. "I like to see the sheep. Sometimes they go faster than the train." At a somewhat speedier pace, we set out from Waterloo to discover London.

Friday: 12.30pm, Bar Italia

First stop Bar Italia, immortalised by Jarvis Cocker in the song he named after it as a mecca for London's washed-up clubbers: "You can't go *home* and go to bed because it hasn't worn off yet, and now it's morning. There's only one place we can go, it's round the corner in Soho ..." Right place, then, only it's the wrong time. At 12.30 in the afternoon, the clubbers have finally stumbled home and we are standing in the washed-up tourist zone instead.

1pm, Quo Vadis

We adjourn a few streets away for lunch at Quo Vadis, the latest restaurant of Marco Pierre White, fitted out by Damien Hirst. Upstairs in the bar, European Union takes its first blow when the waitress, asked for a glass of pastis, raises her eyebrows and says "what's that?"

The highly strung Marco Pierre has been heard to mutter darkly about putting horses' heads in the beds of those who cross him, so it is no surprise that he should favour Hirst's flayed cows in formaldehyde as decor. But the all-pervading whiff of preservative gets right up delicate French noses. "It smells disgusting. In France we prefer to eat our cows, not stuff them," says Marc who, it is becoming clear, is a master of the verbal Gallic shrug. The food receives better reviews: "When I told friends I was coming, they said 'yuk, mint sauce with everything and jelly!' But the things we have eaten are very good." The wine list, however, is greeted with snorts of derision: "One glass is as much as a pitcher in France!"

3pm, Le Shopping

Somewhat under-lubricated as a result of strike action over prices, we head for Soho and Joe Corre's lingerie boutique, Agent Provocateur. Corre is the son of Vivienne Westwood and Malcolm McLaren, and his shop is brimming with itsy-bitsy proof that the days of armpit-hugging knickers are numbered on these shores. But although his merchandise may be favoured by supermodels, it seems it does not cut the *moutarde*.

"It's not provocative at all. Transparent things are not sexy. There is no leather or rubber or lace," insists Gaile, making that "mou" thing with her mouth that only French girls can pull off. Marc, although taken with a diamanté studded whip, is similarly nonplussed: "It *is* very civilised. If you call yourself provocateur, you should be provoking — like in Pigalle. How many years must we wait until British women wear the Pigalle style?"

Nul points, then, for our underwear. We are stuck in a *Carry On* time warp, all slap and tickle and not enough raunch as far as smart Parisians are concerned. The rest of our *clothes*, *however*, *have* been seized upon wholeheartedly. Not only have young British designers (Stella McCartney, Alexander McQueen *et al*) invaded the halls of haute couture, our pop stars have

Continued on page 2

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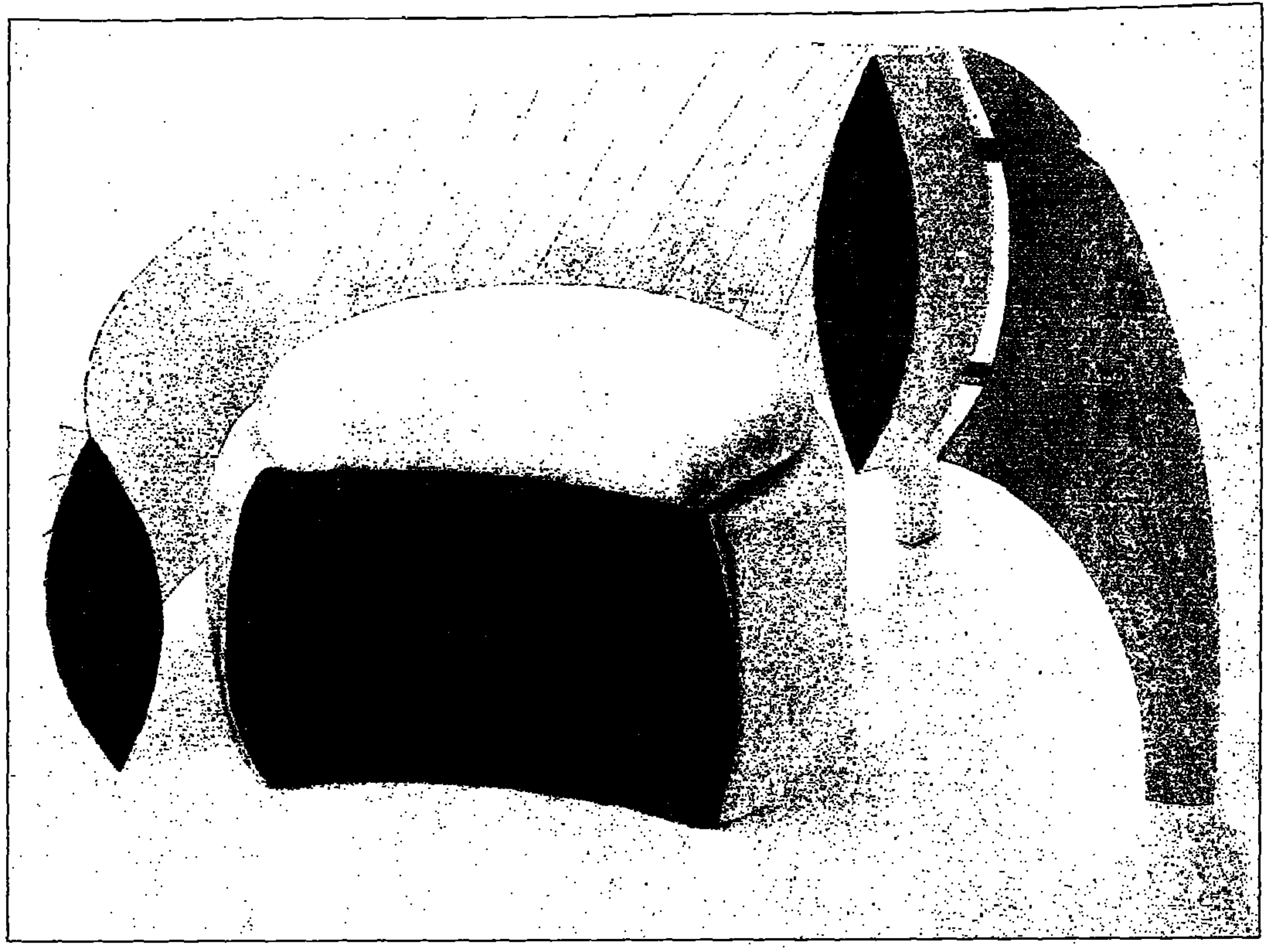
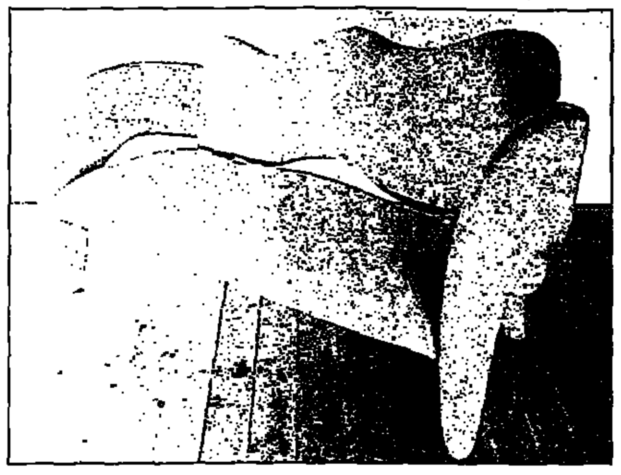
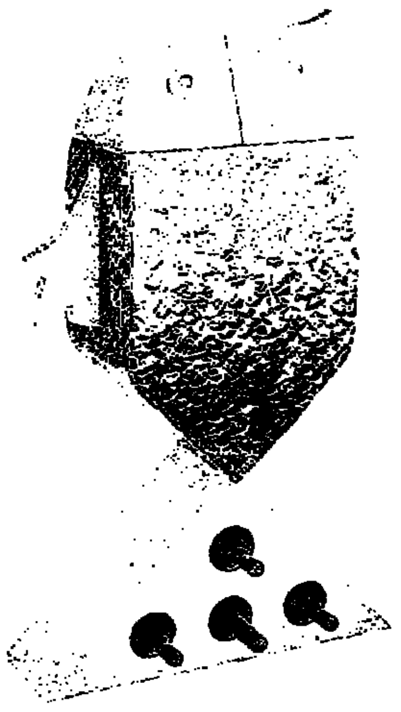
The future of British furniture is in good hands with the latest crop of design graduates. **Sudi Pigott** reveals the shape of things to come

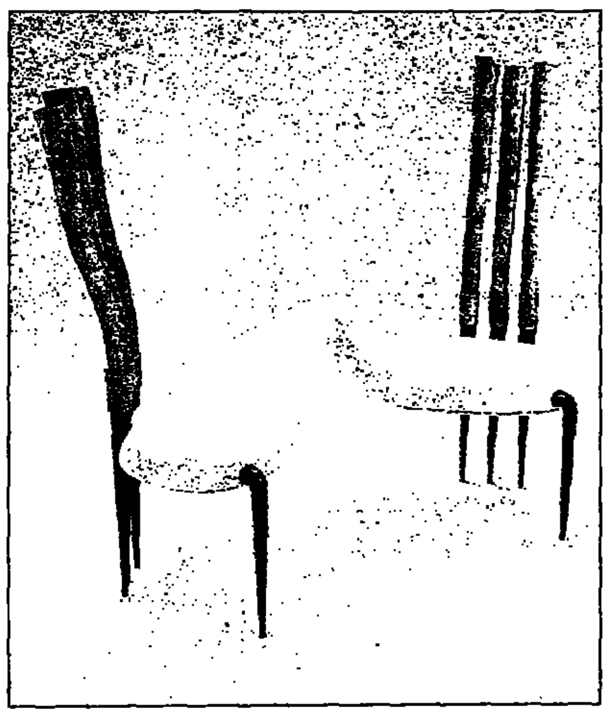
The new classic collection

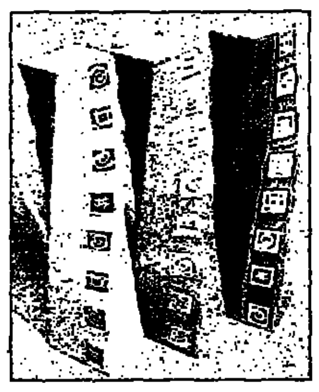
IF YOU ARE in search of style classics for the home of tomorrow, look no further than the New Designers' Exhibition. Now in its eleventh year, this is a brilliant showcase for the new crop of young British talent. It features beautifully crafted, innovative pieces, from lighting and tableware to furniture and textiles and offers you the chance to buy or commission the work. Here are some of the quirkiest and most covetable works

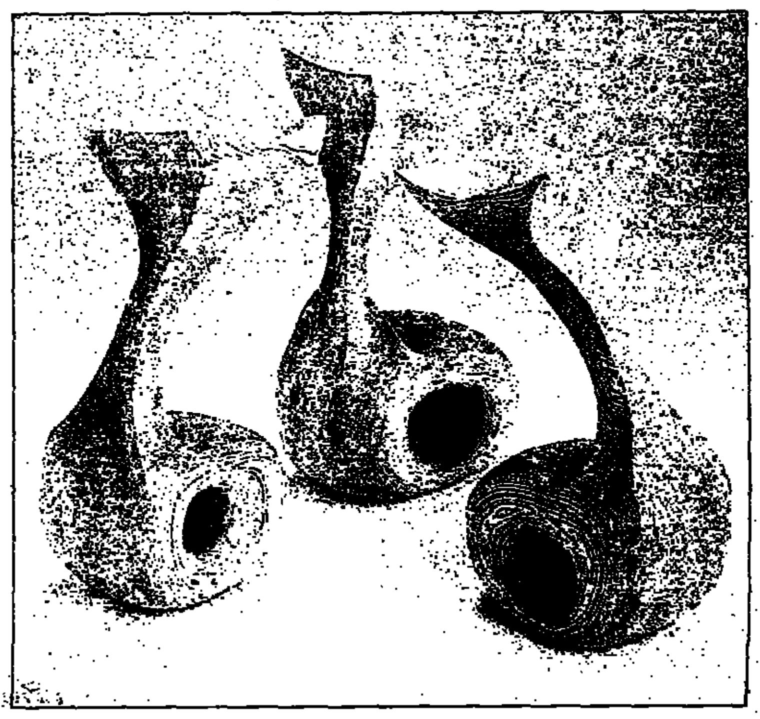












CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: "Helix" chaise, £2,135 in aeroply, birch plywood and maple by John Haskins. (Inquiries: 20 Bydemill Gardens, Highworth, Swindon, Wilts SN6 7BS, 01793 762504)

Chest of drawers in the round made from maple, maple veneer and MDF, £800 by Stephen Chappell. (Inquiries: *Hutton Shores, Hutton, Western* Supermare, North Somerset *BS24 9QQ, 01934 812776*)

Birch plywood "Snails" strokeable tables, £650 each, by Edward Beharrell. (Inquiries: Brook Cottage, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0EX, 01243 811704).

Twisted vases in slip cast earthenware, £45 each by Sara Carruthers. (*Inquiries: 107* Brackenwood Road, Higher *Bebington, Merseyside L63* 2LU, 0151-608 7387).

Conversational chair in forged steel and oak, £2,500 by Tearay Dosanjh. (Inquiries: 12 St Jude's Avenue, Mapperley Park, Nottingham NG3 5FG, 0115-960 4502)

"Drinks like a fish" cabinet made from laminated plywood, ash and beer cans, £900 by Alison Fraser. (Inquiries: 27 Hughenden Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5HS, 01494 521041)

Fusion II solid beech framed two-seater sofa, £1,800, by Teresa Fernandes. (Inquiries: 38 Huddleston Road, London N7, 0171-609 3899)

THE New Designers Exhibition at The Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH (0171-359 3535). Part 1 Textiles, Fashion, Flooring and Craft (July 10-13); Part 2 Interiors, 3D Product Design, Jewellery and Craft (July 17-20). Thursdays to Saturdays 10am-7pm. *Sundays 10am-4pm.* Admission £6 (£4 concs), or £9 (£6 concs) for both weeks.

'In Paris we don't queue, we push, and if we don't get in, we leave'

Continued from page 1

put British fashion on the streets.

Soigné Parisian youth are swapping their sports jackets and polo necks for an Oasis-infused blend of retro-scruff. Unfortunately they will iron their anoraks, which tends to *detract from the effect. Or as* Robert puts it: "The French might want to copy the British style, but they have an impediment — the notion of chic."

The next stop is Paul Smith's in Covent Garden, which Marc and Gaile adore: "It is very young and classically English, with a sense of *humour*," they *enthuse*, although they are not sure they *would dare to wear some of* the wilder creations. "In Paris, people look at you strangely if you wear bright colours," says Gaile. "I have a friend who was beaten up just because she has blue hair."

London may be stuffed to the gills with innovative boutiques — from heavy duty *designers to cut-price chic* — but then so is Paris. The *French are much more inter*ested in what they have not got. In Cecile's case this turns out to be feminist bookstores or, more precisely, jokes about men. She heads straight for the humour section in Silver Moon on Charing Cross Road: "I love it. French men *are so sexist, they wouldn't* appreciate this at all."

Marc is on his own personal mission. He already exports organic cheese to America, now he feels it is our turn. Everywhere we go, the faintest suggestion of a delicatessen has him frothing at the mouth for a new cheese experience: "I eat cheese twice a day — *minimum*," he *announces*, tasting Guinness-flavoured cheddar at the International Cheese Centre.

More bizarrely, they also want to go to Boots — "for bicarbonate toothpaste, and deodorant — it has a chemical that we don't have in France". *So there we have it*: London triumphs over Paris in the battle against BO.

8pm. Fulham

After dinner at The Mission, a local restaurant run by some of Robert's English friends, we head for the slim strip of the *Fulham Road known as the* Beach — where the Jemimas *and Tamaras of this world* frolic. We pitch up outside *Janet's Bar*, but it is 11.15pm and last orders have been called — one tradition which Parisians, whose bars stay open until 1am, are happy we should keep to ourselves.

12.30am. Ministry of Sound

Another cab ride takes us to Soho again, where Bar Italia's customers are spilling out along Frith Street. A quick espresso, then we are off to *that south London* "superclub", Ministry of Sound. The queue outside sparks a slight diplomatic incident.

The French realise that not only do they have to stand in *line, they might not even get in* if the bouncers do not like the *look of them. "The queue* is stupid. Why wait if you still *have to be selected? In Paris* we don't queue, we push, and if we don't get in, we leave." Marc harrumphs.

The club has been packing in London's ravers for the past five years, but its sound system, three separate dance floors, chill-out rooms and big *name DJs can't disguise the* fact that it is really just a warehouse full of teenagers desperate to pull.

With an average age of 30, we are definitely over the hill. "It's like Euro Disney — somewhere you should take your children ... bye bye, have fun kids," is *Marc's* opinion. Accurate, but a bit *rich coming from a nation* whose idea of a good night out is getting on down to Michael Jackson.

Saturday

11am. the East End

Bleary-eyed and exhausted from the night before, we meet *in Whitechapel*. Nothing cures a hangover like a plateful of egg, bacon and chips. Even the French are forced to admit that there are times when a wimpish croissant just does not do the trick. After a brief encounter with one of the locals — ably demonstrating *that other cockney custom, the* liquid breakfast of Special *Brew — we pile into the* nearest greasy spoon.

Brown sauce is a big hit, but what we have really come for is the art. Gilbert and George live down the road, and this corner of London is crammed with galleries and studios.

A stone's throw from Brick Lane is Commercial Too, an impromptu gallery set up in a former synagogue, where 31 young artists have run amok. There is a room *full* of mouldering bread, a man *stuck down a lift shaft, and a* deflated pantomime horse *among numerous curious of*ferings. For once the French are genuinely impressed, less by the work than by the fact it is there at all. "The boom is really about people trying new things, artists taking risks, not waiting for a big gallery to choose them like in Paris," says Gaile. "Brit Art is funny. We're tired of intellectualism. Why talk about existentialism when you're worried about losing your job?"

***2pm.* Bluebird Restaurant**

Brit Art's fame may not yet have spread to Paris, but Sir Terence Conran's certainly has. The Conran-ising of London continues apace with his latest venture, the 240-seater Bluebird Restaurant on the King's Road in Chelsea, where we arrive for lunch.

"It's not so different from the Gare du Nord," says Robert, admiring the vast iron girders pinning up the cavernous interior of this former garage. *It* has the usual Conran *tricks* — unnervingly handsome waiters (in aprons *which, the Parisians say,* make them look like butchers), and acres of *chrome. The* menu, featuring "wood-roasted" *more or less everything* — pizza, rabbit, squab, even salad — is rapturously received, along with the news that we can afford the house white.

Robert — who, in a former guise, reached the culinary heights of running a Tex-Mex restaurant off the Champs Elysées — puts our recent improvement in cooking down to our fabulously unremarkable past: "The British don't *have any cultural constraints* on food, so they can take a bit *of this and that and mix it. In* France there is always the *weight of tradition.*"

He is not so sure about the giant food hall downstairs. Though inspired by French markets, it has dispiritingly chic Chelsea prices. Marc, however, is in heaven, and has to be wrested from the cold counter where he is already on first-name terms with Max, keeper of the cheese.

By now, we are far too tired to appreciate the King's Road *as we know we should and* shuffle up to Sloane Street and *Harvey Nichols for a last* burst of le shopping.

5pm, The End

We are still arguing over every twitch of the cultural swingometer as we arrive back at Waterloo, and collapse gratefully into a pub to wait for the train back to Paris.

Marc looks deep into his pint of Murphy's before announcing *his considered* verdict on the whole affair: "We *still prefer New York* for clothes and nightclubs. But *your art is interesting and the* food has definitely improved. Maybe London is *somewhere* between Paris and New York."

He pauses: "We'll wait until you have more cheese."

PAUL SALMON

Robert, Cecile, Marc and Gaile took in a spot of le shopping, lunch at Quo Vadis ("in France we prefer to eat our cows") and an appointment at the Ministry of Sound ("it's like Euro Disney") before catching Eurostar home

How does Paris measure up? A British family investigates

Travel, page 15

Jenn Crowell

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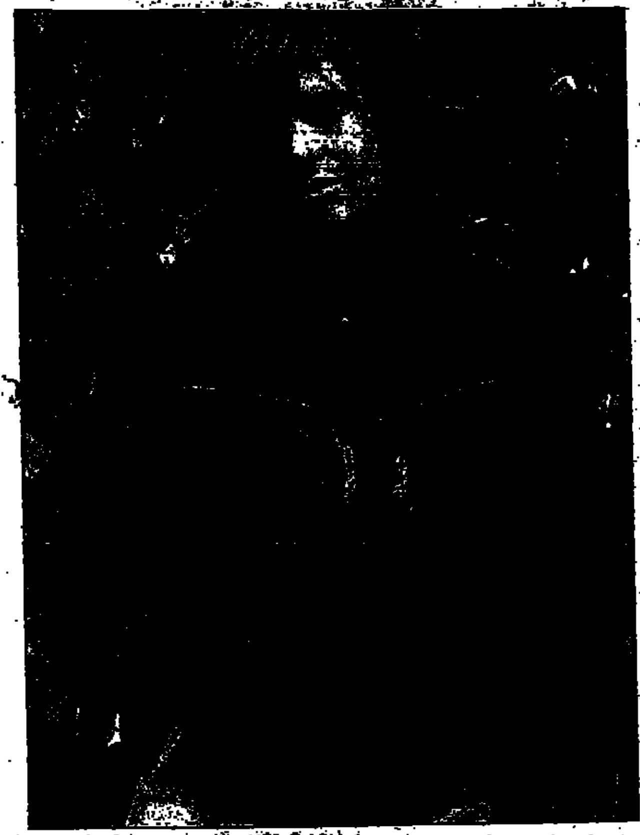
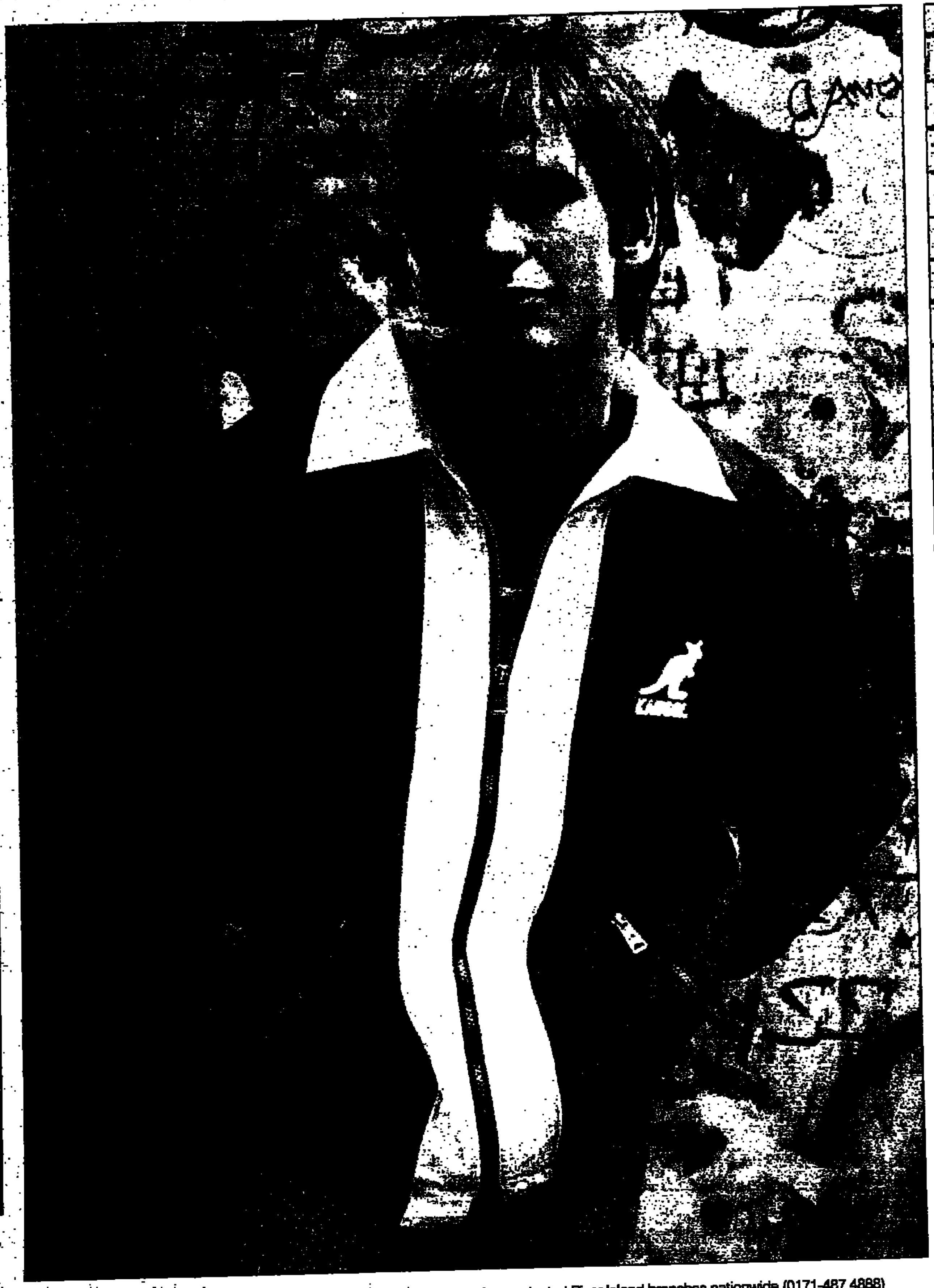
Menswear takes a hike



Cherry and navy fleece jacket with detachable hood, £85, Karrimor, 3 Southampton Street, WC2 (01254 385911). Mustard jeans, £50, Urban Stone, Natterjacks (0181-961 5588)

Cream MC rubber jacket with navy trim, £119.99, Quicksilver, Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1 (0171-287 2039). Navy and cream zip knit top, £85; Indigo jeans, £75, Replay, 52 Long Acre, WC2 (0171-267 5632). Leather walking boots, £59.99, Ellesse, from J.D. Sports, selected branches (0161-445 5955)



Navy T-shirt, £16.99; navy and white nylon jacket, £89.99, Kangol, from selected River Island branches nationwide (0171-487 4888)

Olive fleece, red-trim, hooded top, £71.99, Vans, from Cobra Sports, 41 Carnaby Street, W1 and selected branches nationwide (0181-877 9907). Dark blue round neck T-shirt, £16.99, Kangol, from selected River Island branches nationwide (0171-487 4888). Mustard woven jean-style trousers, £50, Urban Stone, Natterjacks, 40 Fife Road, Kingston, southwest London (0181-961 5588). Olive suede trainers, £59.99, Kangol, as before

Heath Brown on the outdoors look as urban streetwear

Who would have thought that a country ramble or a spot of hiking could turn into a fashion show? The trend began in the early Nineties when brighter colours and design-conscious outfits were created for skiers and snowboarders, always the sporty posers. The rest of the outdoors brigade, once ridiculed as "anoraks", decided to demand stylish gear too. Out went the trusty sludge-coloured kagoul and in came branded clothing in fluorescent hues. They not only looked good, they also fulfilled their function.

"New colours, fabrics and technologies have come into vogue, and all the outdoor pursuits companies have to keep up with the competition and trends, progressively producing new styles," says Robert Bruce, product manager or Karrimor.

And thanks to the recent proliferation of "dangerous sports" the outdoors look has become so stylish it has filtered into urban streetwear. It appeals to men who want to look as if they're prepared for the great outdoors even though they wouldn't venture further than the car park.

Sporty rainproof jackets, loose zipped anoraks, hooded fleecy tops in modern colours, patch-pocketed rambler trousers and chunky hiker-type boots are adopted by all kinds every Saturday morning on every high street.

However, the best fleece jacket, high-tech waterproof coat and walking boots that allow your feet to breathe are among the must-haves for the true urban adventurer. No wonder fashion names such as Next, Kangol and Replay have mimicked more authentic labels such as Berghaus, Karrimor and Helly-Hansen. But bear in mind that the fashion garments are not as durable as the real thing.

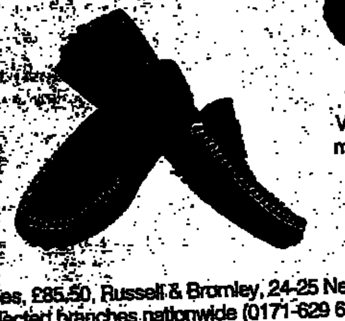
"It may be a sportswear look but it is not true performance clothing," says Mo Khan of Kangol. "It is made for the urban guy who wants pukka quality, but with a cutting streetwise edge."

THREE OF A KIND

Driving shoes are comfortable, practical and look good too. Here is a clutch of our favourites. H.B.

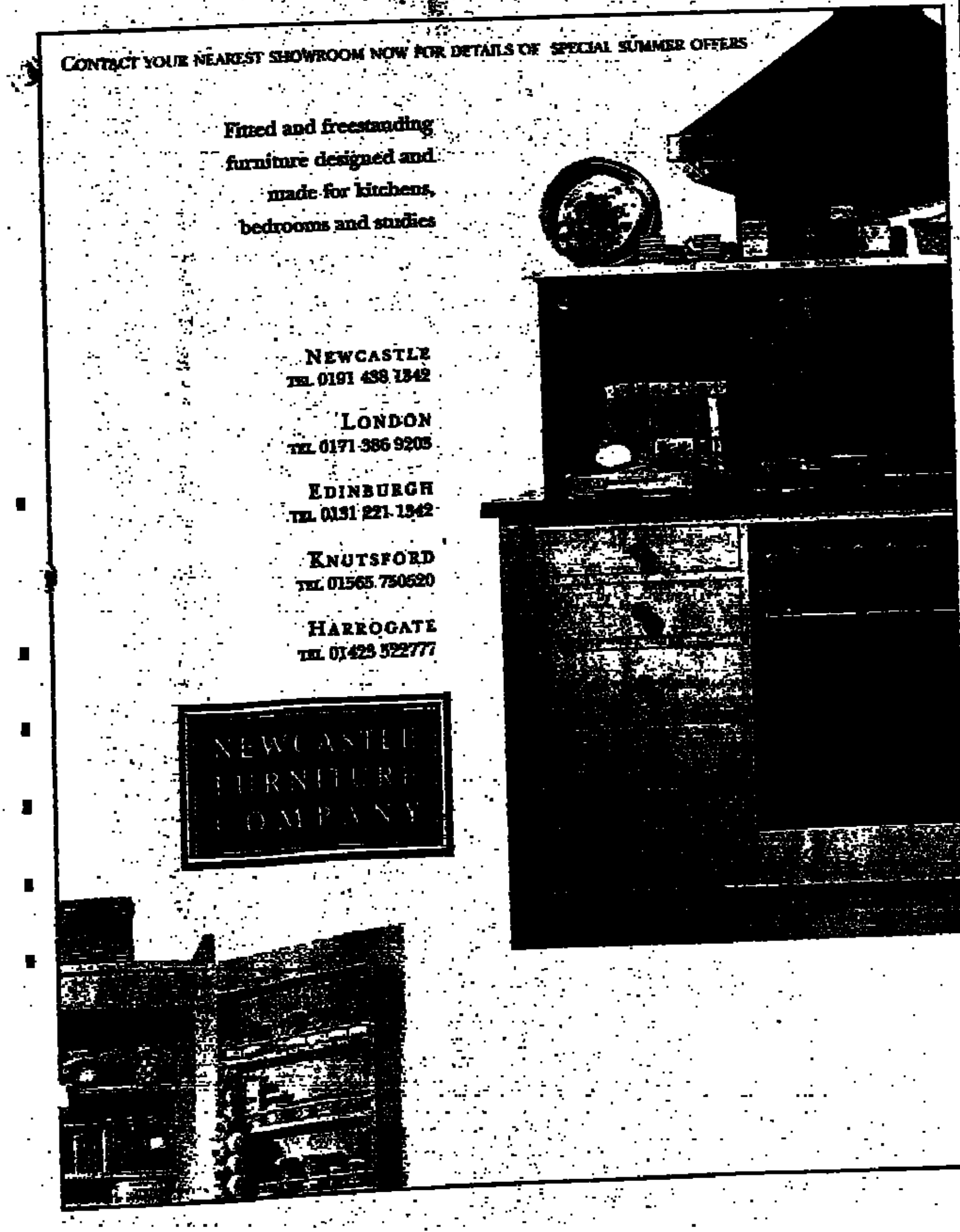
Pale green driving shoes, £170, J.P. Todds, Harrods, SW1 (0171-730 1234)

Tan driving shoes, £29.95, Vivaldi, Debenhams, W1 and major stores (0171-935 2002)



Dark navy driving shoes, £85.50, Russell & Bromley, 24-25 New Bond Street, W1 and selected branches nationwide (0171-629 6903)

Photos: Richard Burns. Grooming: Sally Krathelm for Jo Hansford (0171-495 7774). Styling: Amandip Uppal



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Duxiana, 11 Upper High Street,
Winchester, Hampshire. SO23 8UT.
Tel: 01962 877766. (Closed Mondays.)

Duxiana, 4 Montpellier Gardens
Harrogate. North Yorkshire HG1 2TF.
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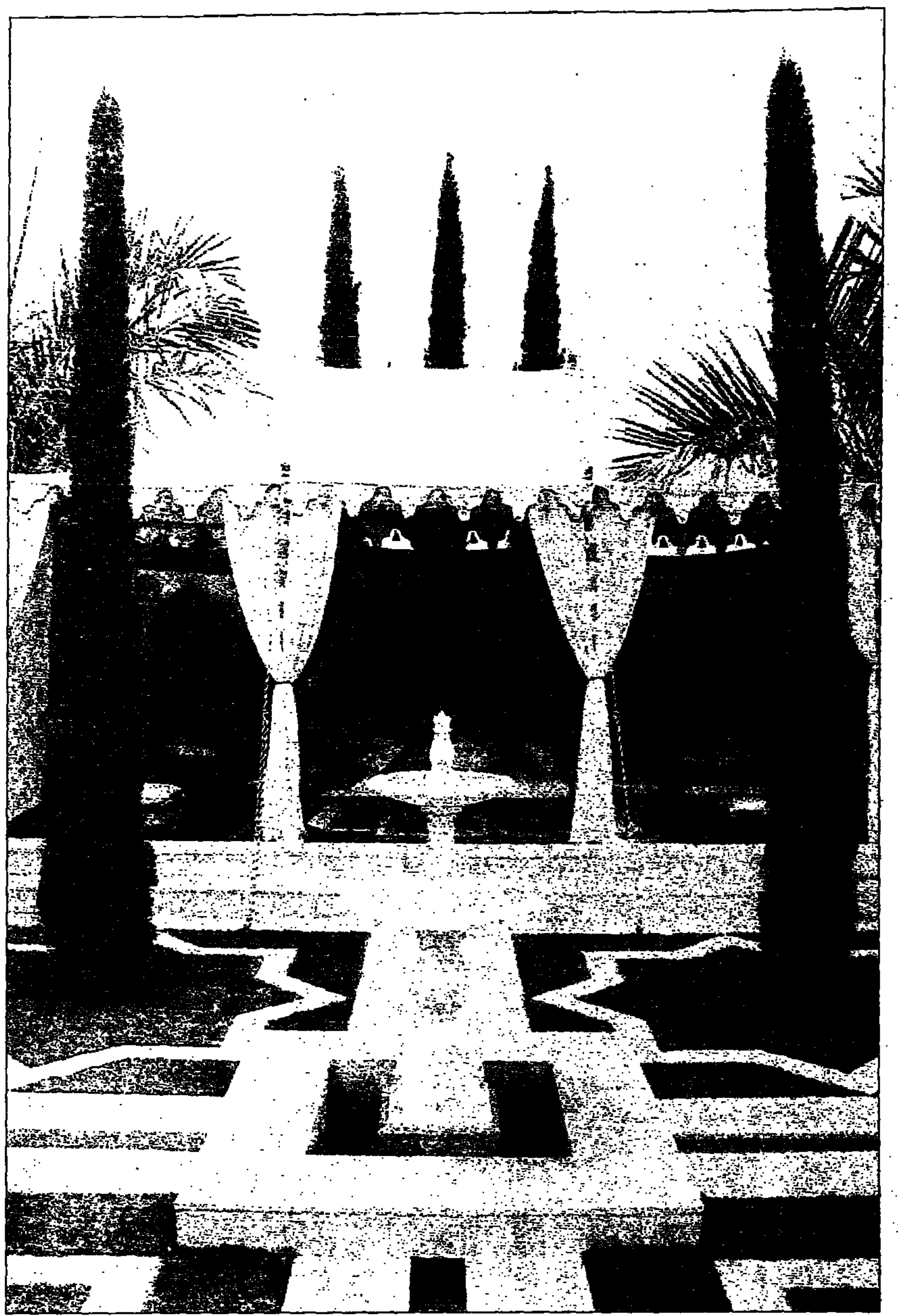
GARDENER'S UPDATE

JANE OWEN

RAJ TENT CLUB sells the world's most exotic garden pavilions, with a climatic range from Scandinavia to the Caribbean. They are gorgeously exotic canvas, cotton and silk rooms based on the traditional tents of Rajasthan, made in the Indian province but adapted for modern life. "We use all the local skills of Rajasthan, from woodblock printing to carpentry, embroidery and tassel-making," says Clarissa Mitchell, the founder of the company. Ms Mitchell's work will be familiar to anybody who saw the Mughal Garden sponsored by the Maharajah of Jodhpur at the Chelsea Flower Show this year. A blue-and-white pavilion that she designed stood at the back of a formal garden based on the garden of the Taj. It sold for £6,500 including the drapes, blinds and floor-cushions, and is now pitched beside the sea in a Mughal garden in Kuwait. The company's standard tents range from a two-metre-square, scallop-edged, lined pergola for £385 to its most popular item, an octagonal pavilion 13ft in diameter (£1,500) to grand marquees for £25,000.

● *Raj Tent Club, 64 Kensington Park Road, London W11 3BJ (0171-221 4273; fax 0171-565 2803).*



Perfect for an Indian summer: the Raj Tent Club creates canvas, silk and cotton garden palaces for the discerning

In a glass of its own

THOSE who have swum through the "jungle pool" area of Center Parcs in the middle of winter will be aware of the heat efficiency of the vast glass dome which encloses the swimming area. It is made from a type of Pilkington glass, coated with an ultra-thin layer of metal, which lets in shortwave radiation from the sun yet retains longwave radiation from fires inside. A form of this glass is now available for conservatories, and Pilkington claims that it offers 30 per cent better insulation than double glazing. For more information call 0800 556000.

Webbed feat

THE INTERNET site www.gardening-uk.com is designed to take the strain out of armchair plant-hunting. Instead of having to find an appropriate nursery by browsing through the *Plant Finder* or magazines, you access the web site, which lists a range of catalogues which can then be ordered via your home computer — so there is no need to ring or write. William Wallace, who started the web site, used to run a conifer nursery. He is planning to add landscaping companies, garden equipment manufacturers and a list of gardening books to his site. For information, ring 01403 864797.

To my mind, the RHS *Plant Finder* is still the best investment for gardeners, even if it is slightly more long-winded than doing it the web site way. It lists 70,000 plants and where to buy them. RHS *Plant Finder* 1997-98 is published by Dorling Kindersley at £12.99, and is also available on CD-Rom.

Exotic, aye

Logan Botanic Garden bills itself as the most exotic in Scotland, so its managers are running a "fire and spice" tour of the walled garden on Wednesday, July 9, at 11am to display perennials from the southern hemisphere.

For more information contact Logan Botanic Garden, Port Logan, Wigtownshire DG9 9ND (01776 860231).

Palace view

STEPHEN ANDERTON, the *Times* gardener, is a master of wild gardening. He will be sharing his expertise at Waddesdon Manor in Buckinghamshire at a "special interest day" on September 10. Waddesdon, built in 1874, is surrounded by informal and formal landscapes. The day will focus on The Dairy, a water garden normally closed to the public. The day costs £55 a person and includes lunch, coffee and tea. Call 01296 651226.

Dock leaves

THE South East Garden Festival runs from August 1-3 at the Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent. It will feature the usual delights from specialist nursery stalls, including miniature roses, cacti, perennials and bonsai. Tickets are £5 (children £3), opening hours 9am-6pm. Parking is free. Motorists should leave the M20 at Junction 6, trains depart from Charing Cross and Victoria. For further information on the festival, ring 01795 844939

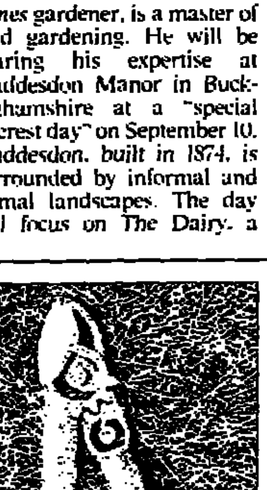
Run wild

PLANTLIFE is currently buying wildflower meadows in order to preserve these important habitats. Annual membership is £19. For further information contact the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD (0171-938 9111).

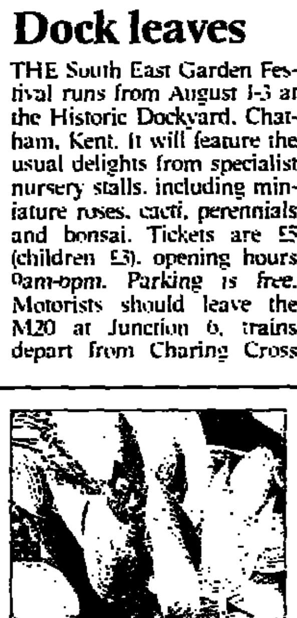
THE telephone number for the Herb Society (*Weekend*, June 28) is 0171-823 5583. Senior citizens' membership is £17.50.

FIND OF THE MONTH

SINCE last autumn I have had to do much pruning and chopping back of overgrown roses, rosemary, lavender, lavatera, fruit trees and bay. The job has been transformed by a Wilkinson Sword two-handed pruner/light lopper. Although two-handed, these are very light and strong, the blades do not stick and they seem to bite through the toughest shrub or small tree branch. Only one of the blades is metal, the rest of the tool is made from a plastic/fibreglass compound. RRP £19.99. Telephone 01656 65595 for nearest stockist.



The two-handed pruner



Hosta 'Devon Green'

PLANT OF THE MONTH

HOSTA 'Devon Green' is a vigorous plant, dark grey-green and reasonably slug-proof. The heart-shaped leaves reach about 18cm, and pale mauve flowers appear at midsummer. It forms pleasing domes of compact foliage. It can be seen at the National Collection of Hostas, Cleave House, Sticklepath, Okehampton, Devon. Private visits to the collection are welcome until the end of October only by telephoning ahead on 01837 840481 to Ann and Roger Bowden, who first introduced *H.* 'Devon Green' to this country.

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH I

POSTCODE plants is a free scheme that tells you which native plants thrive in your area. Write to the charity Flora for Fauna and it will send you a five or six-page list of the plants and animals historically native — ie, some of them may no longer be there. It is part of the scheme by Jill, Duchess of Hamilton, to promote English plants for English Gardens.

"I had no idea so many people would be interested. Two thousand have written for their postcode plants since the Chelsea Flower Show in May," the Duchess says. "Our database, which is part of a joint project with the Natural History Society, is still in the development stage, so we welcome any written criticisms or corrections." Those interested in the scheme should write on a postcard, with their address, to: Flora for Fauna, c/o Linnean Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0LQ.

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH II

THERE are 500 bottles of liquid Biotol, the organic slime-busting treatment for grass clippings, going free. The first 500 readers to send postcards, with their names and addresses, to Liquid Biotol offer, Cheryl Hill Communications, 30 New Road, Leeds LS19 7SE will receive the product. Please state if you do not want further information from the companies involved.

A pilgrimage to Canterbury

OPEN THIS WEEKEND

■ **Goodnestone Park, Canterbury, Kent (01304 840107)**

Signed off B2046, either from A2 at Barham or from A257 at Wingham. Open: Mon, Wed-Fri, 11am-5pm, Sun noon-6pm, £2.50, under-12s 20p.

Shortly after walking into the garden, dawdle along the fine terraces in front of the house and watch a game of cricket in the park, or head for the far side to admire the gnarled trunk of an ancient sweet chestnut. There is a long lime avenue beyond the amphitheatre of lawns to the west, planted in 1984. To one side of this, a fast-maturing arboretum of ornamental trees is divided from a woodland garden by tall hornbeam hedges. In the walled garden, old brick walls enclose a series of interlinking sections, with a long central vista down to the church tower.

If you are looking for somewhere to travel on to, today (noon-6pm) and tomorrow (11am-5pm) is the garden festival at Wye College near Ashford, the horticultural college of London University.

■ **Lake House, Northington, Alresford, Hampshire (01962 734820)**

Off B3046, 4m north of Alresford, follow signs for The Grange. Open: tomorrow 11am-5pm, £2.50, children free.

Lake House, in the Candover valley deep in rural Hampshire, stands in the walled kitchen garden of an old family home. The Grange is arguably the most important neo-Grecian house in England. Its shell is now preserved by English Heritage and the ghostly but magnificent façade enriches many of the views visitors can enjoy.

The landscaped park with lakes, a cascade and immaculately planted woodland was obviously created for the Grange, and makes a delightful contrast to Lake House and its more recently created garden setting, which includes a superb kitchen garden.

GEORGE PLUMPTRE

GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON

replies to readers' letters

Q **We have just moved into a cottage which has been uninhabited for five years. The garden is riddled with ground elder, nettles and brambles, with a "lawn" of rough grass. How do we create a nice lawn, and a space for the dog and baby to play on? We have tried dog/baby-friendly weedkillers which worked for ten days, then everything sprouted again.** — S. Gadras, Kings Langley, Herts.

A Forget weedkillers for a while. Hire a mower suitable for rough areas, such as a flail mower, and hack down the area you expect to be lawn. Scythe it down or strim it, if you prefer. Rake it off, then just keep mowing it. You will be amazed how soon you get a green and even surface. In cultivated areas, though, you may well need to resort to weedkillers.

Q **Last October I moved a 6ft firethorn (*pyracantha*) a few years old to another position. Leaves have been produced about 9in up the stem but no farther. Should I saw off the upper growth?** — B.A. Reece, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

A Saw it off at 9in. Mature pyracanthas do not like being moved. Like thorns and hollies, they develop a questing, wiry root system which you can never move intact. However, at least yours is alive and with a good mulch of manure or compost and regular watering, it should be tall again in two years.

Q **Last autumn I planted *Campanula carpatica* in the garden. It never thrived and eventually died. I found a dozen yellow spherical objects a few millimetres across in the soil. They crunched like eggshells, spurting a fluid with some force when pressed. What were they, did they kill the plant, did they come with the plant and will they spread?** — R.N. Hinchliffe, Leeds.

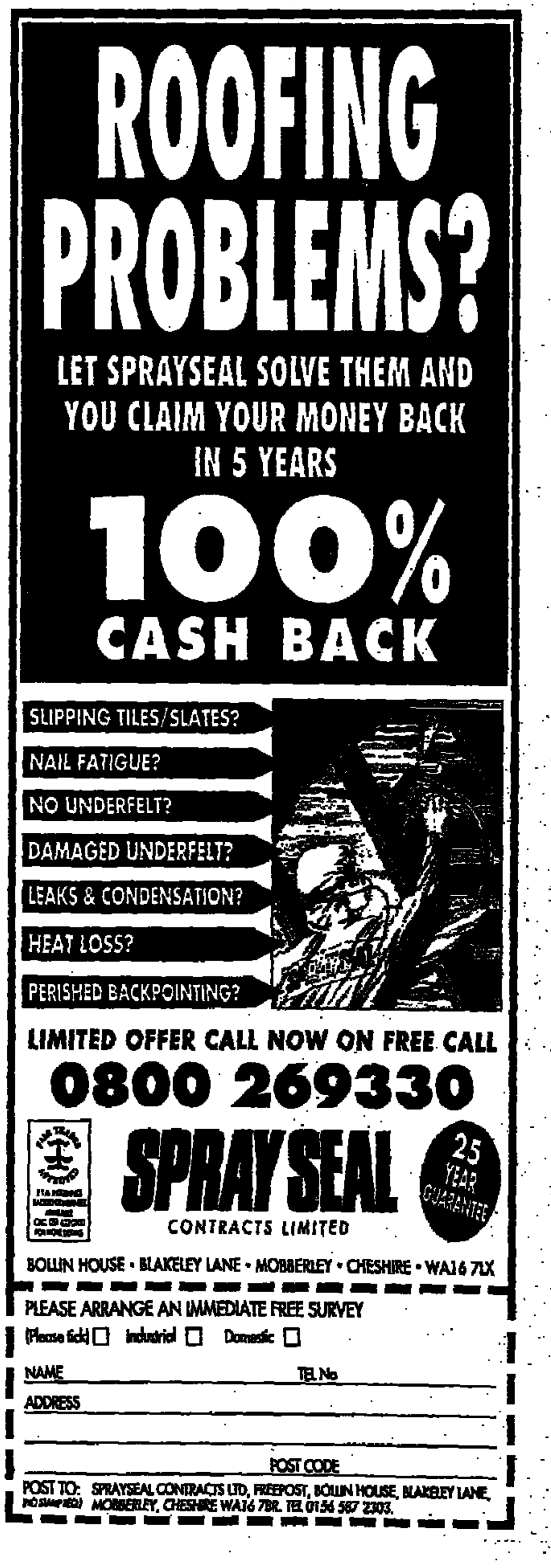
A Have no worries. These are just the spent cases of encapsulated slow-release fertiliser. Nurserymen mix them into their composts to ensure that plants have a constant supply of food over a set number of days. *C. carpatica* is not the easiest of plants to grow and needs good drainage and air movement. It may have died of a wet, peaty compost.

● *Write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times regrets that any enclosures cannot be returned.*

WEEKEND TIPS

- ■ Dead-head peonies and delphiniums as necessary. Remove the spent flowers on petunias, argyranthemums and nasturtiums. Break flowered stems on clumps of pinks off at the base.
- ■ Strawberry runners may be pegged down with a piece of wire now, to produce extra plants.
- ■ Earth up potatoes. A heavy watering will quickly boost the yield of earlies in dry areas. Continue to plant leeks for successional cropping.
- ■ Take 2in tip cuttings under polythene of easy shrubs such as *Philadelphus* and *Potentilla*.

HOMES & GARDENS



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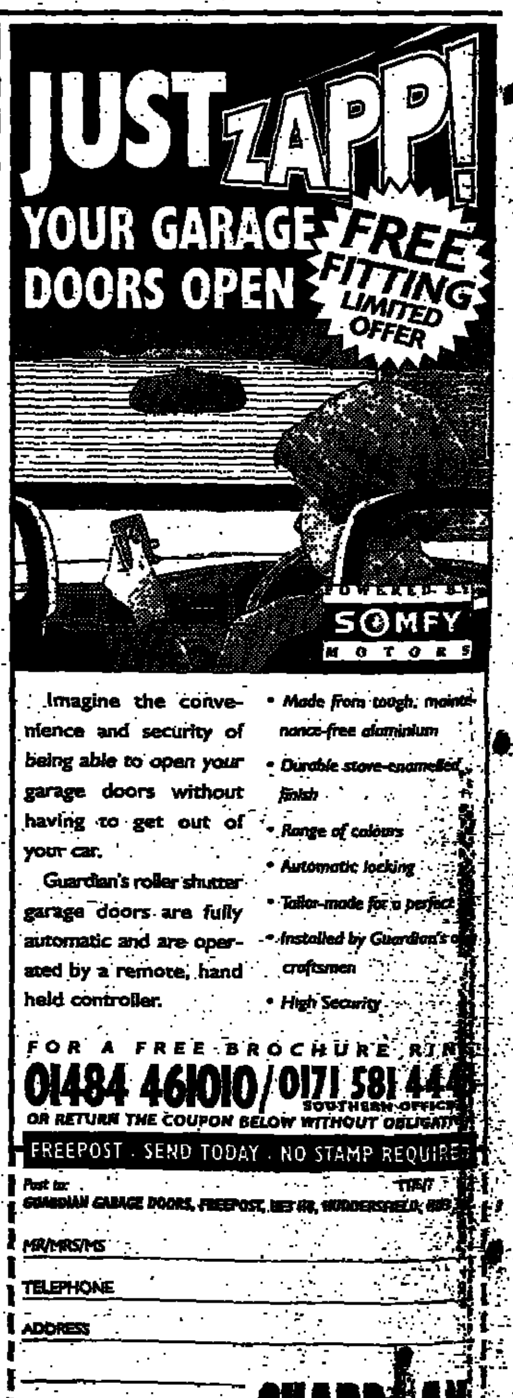

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Hooked on raising cane

The ease and speed of growing bamboo means you can rapidly create a jungle in your garden. **Stephen Anderton** reports

"Warning: Bamboos are seductive and addictive and can seriously affect your relationship with less interesting plants". So runs the label on a packet of bamboo information cards from Jungle Giants, a bamboo nursery in Herefordshire.

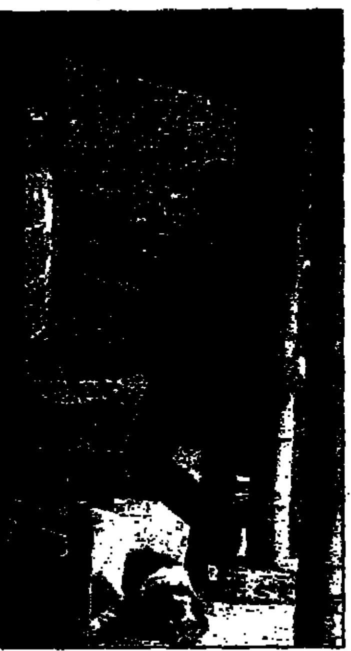
Do you believe it? There is no doubt that bamboos are currently the darlings of the landscape industry. German gardeners cannot get enough of them, despite the fact that bamboos are relatively expensive. But there are so many to choose from, and to the uninitiated they all look alike. Nor does it help that the botanists have just gone through two convulsions of name revision. Like ferns, you need to get to know bamboos to appreciate their charms. Then you're hooked.

For years I have been recommending *Fargesia murieliae*, previously known as *Arundinaria murieliae* and then *Sinarundinaria murieliae*. It is a hardy species which does not run at the root, but makes a 1-12ft fountain of stems which wave in the wind.

Recently however, *F. murieliae* has done the dastardly bamboo trick of flowering and dying throughout the world. Plants that have flowered and look sick may just recover, but the chances are they will die.

So what will happen to the 70,000 *F. murieliae* currently sitting in a Belgian nursery poly-tunnel? Will they be sold? Or burnt? Certainly just now there is no point in taking a risk on large specimens of this species. Settle for small seedling plants, and know that they will go from strength to strength. (This bamboo is easy from seed; sow as soon as the seed is bullet hard, say in August, in a tray outdoors. The seeds will germinate quickly.)

Michael Brisbane, who runs Jungle Giants, is of course hooked on bamboos. He trained as a forester, but when a tree fell and mangled his arm while working in the Far East, it was time to change. He came home, bought out a substantial botanical collection of bamboos which was Jungle Giants, and set up in business.


Michael Brisbane's bamboo loggia

Bamboos are now his life. He has studied commercial bamboo growing and imports from the East and exports to America. He imports dried bamboo too — and constructs garden buildings with it. He has built a loggia of bamboo and corrugated iron on his own barn which looks really at home even in Herefordshire.

According to Mr Brisbane, all species of *Fargesia* struggle to recover from flowering, whereas species of *Phyllostachys* survive flowering better. That is lucky because some *Phyllostachys* are among the most ornamental species of those bamboos which will grow in Britain. The black-stemmed bamboo, *P. nigra*, is an exciting thing. It is a polite, clump-forming species, not a runner to take over the garden, grows to 12ft, and has shiny black stems. It requires full sun to produce the darkest stems, and thinning out older weak stems admits more light to the centre of the plant. The colour develops as the stems mature, so don't worry if the new stems are 8ft tall and pale. They will darken with time.

We looked in Mr Brisbane's nursery at the yellow-stemmed *P. aureosulcata* 'Spectabilis', another very hardy species whose stems are yellow in shade and orange in full sun. There is a striking green stripe down the stem between joints on alternate sides.

The new shoots sprout early in spring, which create a frost problem in some bamboos, but not this one. The young stems tend to bend over at about a foot high, then pull upright again, putting an attractive plumber's kink into the mature canes. Flower arrangers would love it. Mr Brisbane finds this a much better bet in Britain than *P. bambusoides* 'Castilloni' which, although it carries a similar delicious stripe in the stems, is less suited to our climate.

Mr Brisbane obviously enjoys the sheer productiveness of bamboo. "With bamboo as a timber crop, you can take off 10-25 tonnes of wood per hectare every year. Some species will grow to 100ft in three months. North west of Canton, there's a county the size of Wales covered in *Pseudosasa amabilis*, which produces 80 per cent of the world's garden canes."

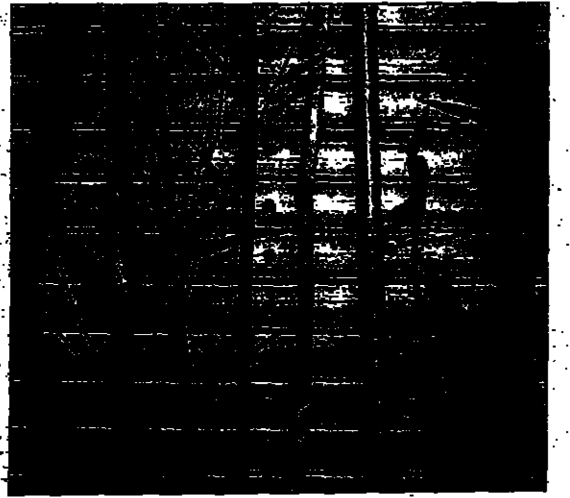
I asked about the so-called crop failures in China, leading to garden centres sometimes saying canes are scarce. "It can happen. But the supply never dries up, because they cut the canes at two years old instead of the full three it takes for the canes to become woody: that's why you sometimes get weak canes. It's not good management, but it happens."

We talked about an idea I had to plant a grove of bamboos beside my house, with a path snaking through among the stems. "You must plant some *Chusquea breviglumis*. It makes really fat stems well spaced out. You'd get a proper thicket and a tall canopy. Just don't think you'd ever be able to get it out again; the underground stems are as fat as your arm!"

And for the fastest, jungly effect, with canes as fat as our climate will produce? "You would need *Phyllostachys propinqua*. It's a new species in cultivation. It goes up like a rocket. It should make 25ft." And there it was, a plant just a few years old, with stems 12ft tall, and canes and leaves of a rich, glossy racing green. I shall have to have one. Somewhere.

● *Jungle Giants, open by appointment only, 01568 770708. At Plough Farm, Wigmore, Herefordshire HR6 9UW and at Burford House Gardens, Tenbury Wells, Worcs WR15 8HQ.*

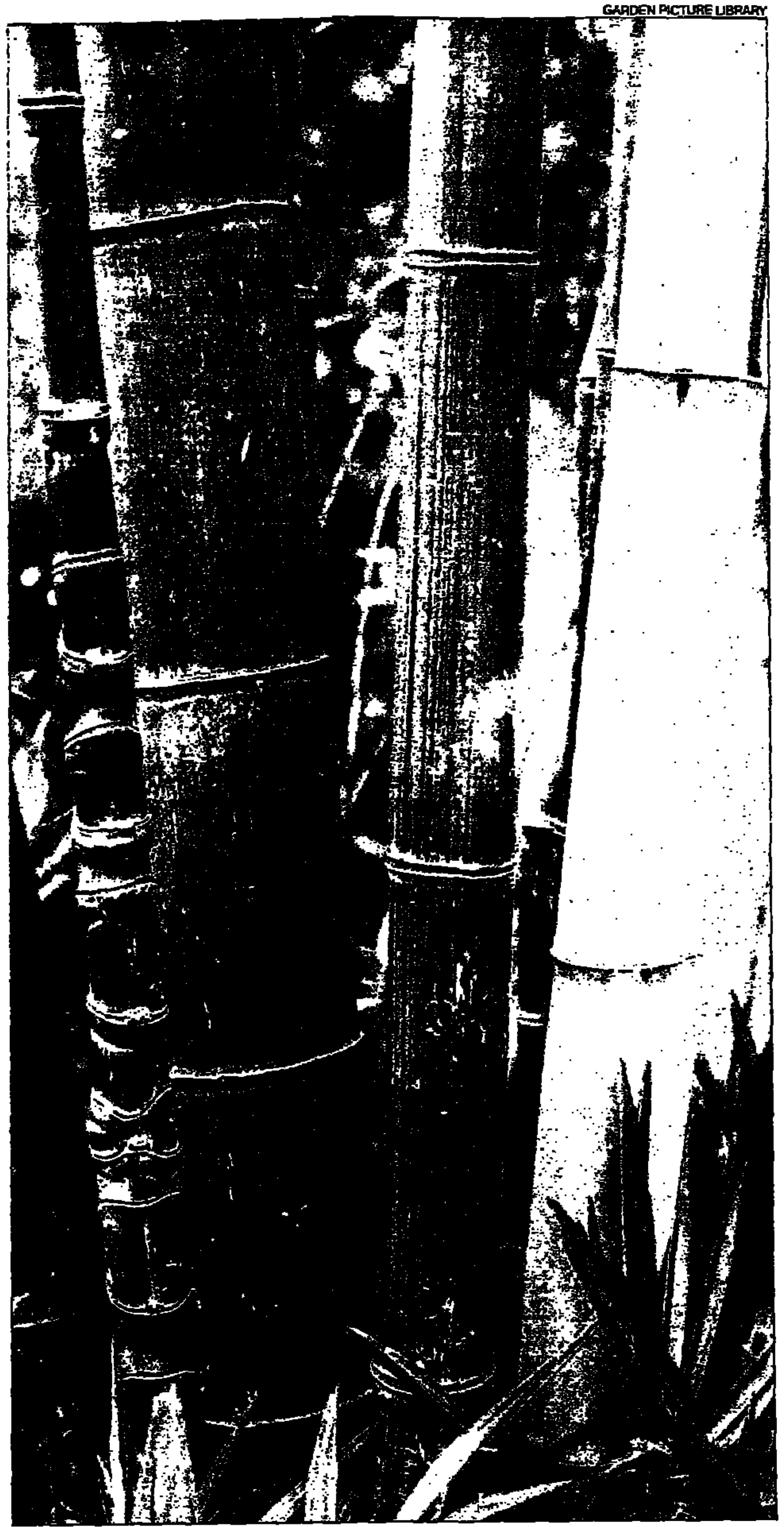
Bamboo can come in a huge variety of shapes and sizes. From left to right: *Phyllostachys propinqua*; *Thamnocalamus crassinodus*; *Fargesia nitida*; *Phyllostachys nigra*; *Arundinaria murieliae*; *Phyllostachys aureosulcata* 'Spectabilis'; *Chusquea breviglumis*



TIPS ON GROWING BAMBOO

- Don't let them dry out when young. When established they will stand a great deal of drought.
- Feed them well, but early in the season, so that they don't make soft late growth which could be damaged by frost. A good spring mulch is always beneficial.
- Remember the canes get fatter and taller as the plant matures. The first stems can weep over, but later years' growth will be more upright and taller. Cut out the old weepers then, if you prefer.
- Bamboos are slow to establish. It is worth paying £25 to get a plant a few years old which will romp away.
- A position sheltered from strong winds is advisable to keep the foliage *pristine*, especially through the winter.
- If you can spare the stems, eat the shoots. Cut them just as they emerge from the soil. As soon as they hit air they start to become woody.

GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY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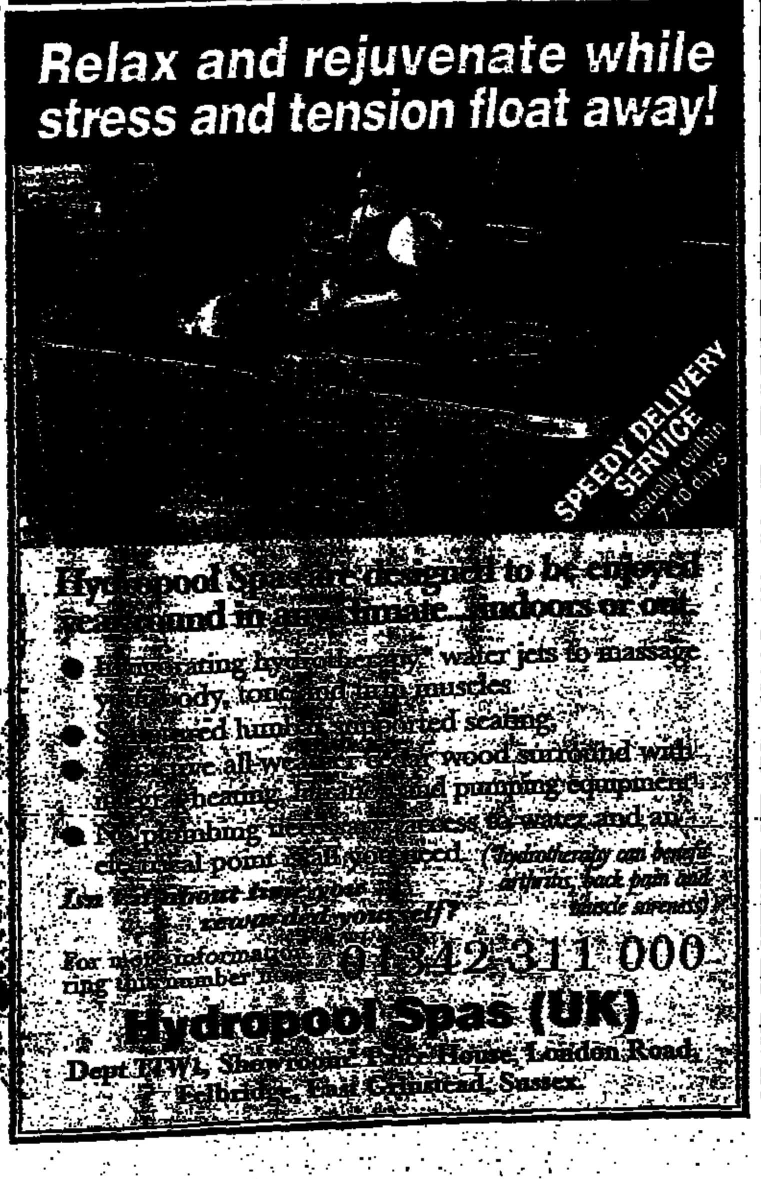
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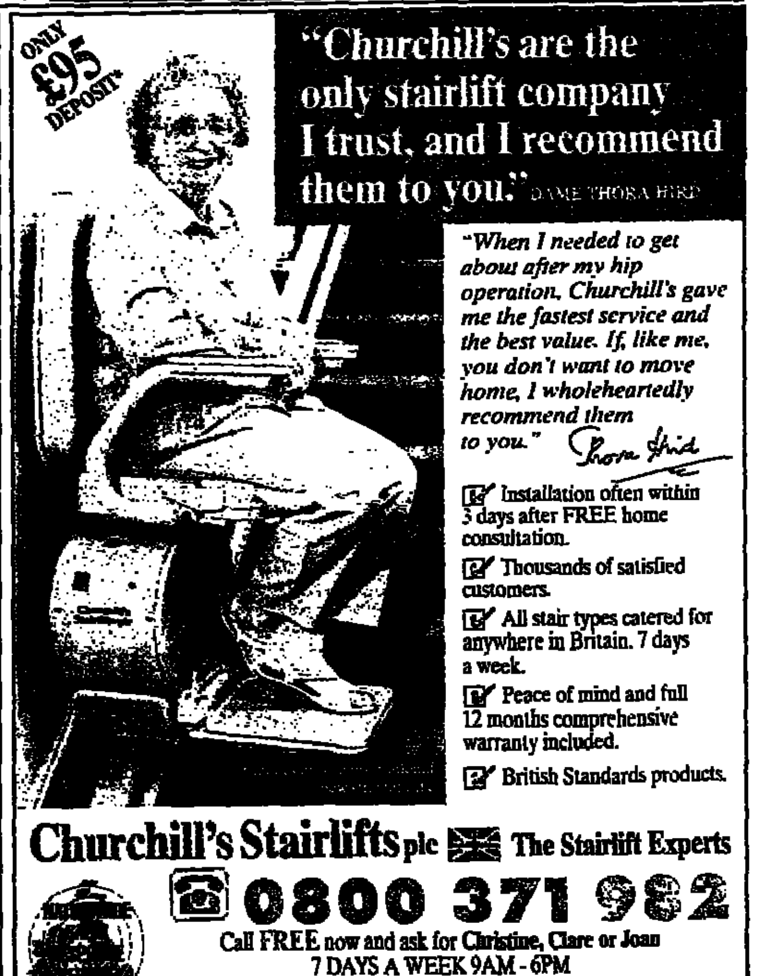
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£2.25 Million Refurbished
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£1.6 Million

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Sold

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4 X 2 Bedrooms £1.25 M/ Flat
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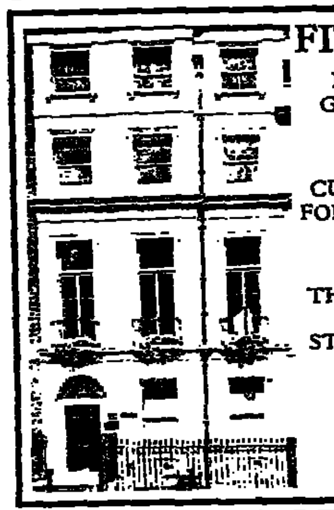

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FULHAM

OVERLOOK Bishops Pk bargain 3 bed flat central heating. £136K. 0171 371 6721.

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Contemporary end of terrace hse in Clancarty Rd.
Magnificent 45ft recep, wood floors, 2 dble beds & 1 sgl. bath with jacuzzi & pwr shower, clk rm, kit, gnd. Loft storage poss conv. £300,000+.
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SW10.
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Fabulous free hold house. 4 to 5 beds, 2 to 3 receptions, small garden with large west facing terrace.
£635,000.
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SW10
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Open plan - 4 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms, double recep room. family room, kitchen, laundry room, study, storage room, cellar, garden. Freehold
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FARNINGHAM KENT
Cozy residence set in 5 Acres o/look the Darenth Valley, superbly maintained comprising of 3 recep. 3 bath, 5 DT bed, a 22ft by 22ft kit & sit rm. Games room, dressing rm & 5th bed, every room with views. Burglar & Fire alm. landscaped grounds with S/Pool & Bowling Green. Private drive protected by e/gates. Situated on the edge of the vge. Easy reach of M/ways & BR, 7 mls to Tonbdg, 15 mls to London, offers nr £725,000
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FRANCE

FRENCH LUROT BRAND RIVIERA

Agay - Var
If you have a large family and want 2 houses, this is next door to the one advertised last week!
Built in 1977 and remarkably well maintained, this house has 185 m² on 3 levels, a well landscaped plot of 2450 m², stands 250 metres above sea level, and has almost uninterrupted 360 degree panoramic views of the bay of Agay, the Esterel mountains and St Tropez in the far distance. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, reception room, dining room, big kitchen, pantry/laundry room, self contained flat with reception room, bedroom, bathroom, kitchenette. Swimming pool, 2 terraces, huge double garage, store, cellar. *Ref 089*
Freehold FF 5.8 million

Mougins
Close to Sophia Antipolis and the golf courses in a quiet location at the end of a cul-de-sac, this villa was built in 1997. It is situated on a nearly flat plot of 2500m², has 230m2 on two levels and a basement offering a further 200m². 4 beds, 3 baths, huge sitting room, dining room, kitchen, hall, guest cloakroom. *On the lower level:* bedroom and shower, garage, vast billiard/TV room, large cellar. Swimming pool, Petanque pit, and in a corner of the garden a summer sitting room and dining room next to an open air stone barbecue. *Ref 810*
Freehold FF 4.25 million

Cannes
On the seafront with no buildings in front! Built in 1971 on 4 levels abutting a rock formation, thus having 2 ground floors! This house has been used as a live-and-work unit. In excess of 350m² it has, starting from street level: 2 garages, wine cellar, boiler room; 1st floor: 3 offices and a workshop. 2nd floor: entrance hall, double height reception room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bathrooms, summer patio/dining room, terraces and garden. 3rd floor: 3 beds with en-suite baths, mezzanine over the reception below, laundry room, garden. Part of the roof is laid out as a terrace. Lift to all floors. This house needs redecoration but also offers flexibility. *Ref 805*
Freehold FF 4.8 million

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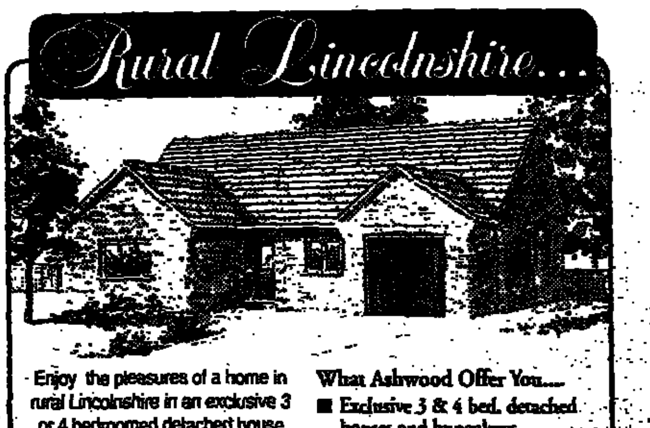

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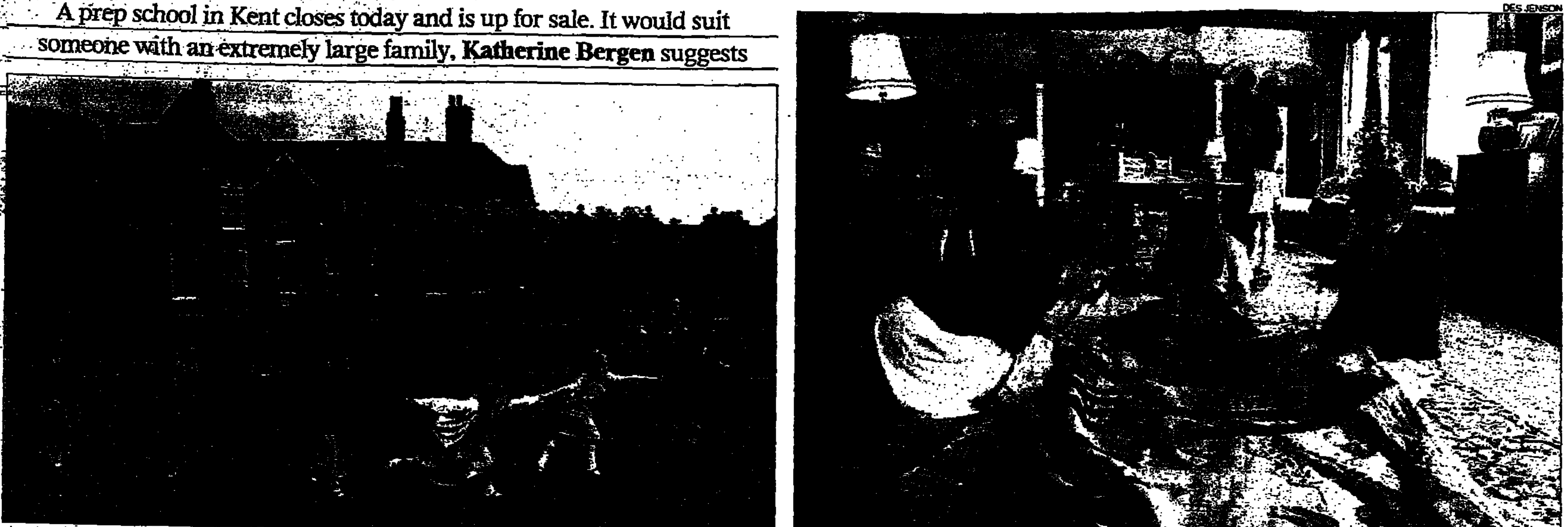
[هكذا من الأصل]

A prep school in Kent closes today and is up for sale. It would suit someone with an extremely large family, **Katherine Bergen** suggests


DES JENSON

Children of Sibton Park School play at the rear of the main house (left). Needlework lessons in the long drawing room (right), the only part of the private dwelling used by the pupils, and (below) the main façade of the Grade II listed house

House with a touch of class

It was sports day when I visited Sibton Park prep school near Ashford in Kent. A lady in the corridor, surrounded by a gaggle of girls, was dispensing ice-cream from a tub to outstretched cones. As I looked on longingly, a little voice piped up, "you can't have any". It emanated at midriff level, from a small girl who giggled at me as she demolished her cone and trotted off to play rounders.

The school — like Diana, Princess of Wales's alma mater West Heath — is for sale. After 50 years as a school run by the same family, numbers of pupils have fallen and after this term they leave for good.

The present owner's grandmother founded the school in 1948, running it from her own home. The school is now run by her granddaughter and her husband, Penelope and Charles Blackwell. Mrs Blackwell proudly picks out the famous old girls from among hundreds of faces in the school photographs. Caroline Langrishe, the actress, and Princess Alia of Jordan spent their schooldays here as did the proprietor herself and her children are there now.

Although the property is cluttered with school paraphernalia — endearing pictures and poems plaster the walls — the main house, which is Grade II listed and built in 1600, has largely remained a private home. The family lives here and, except for excursions into the long drawing room for needlework, the pupils use the 19th-century wing and added classrooms.

But if the concert hall fell down, there would be no difficulty in accommodating the entire school in this room. It is 53 ft long and 20 ft wide. Oak-panelled walls offset two stone fireplaces. Another fireplace, in the smaller drawing room next door, is dated 1602.

For all their grandeur, these rooms do still show the effects of ever-present children. Even the impressive crimson dining room is home to a large number of saddles which are currently stored here after some burglaries at the stables.

The house is certainly in need of some renovation. Although the roof has been re-leaded, interior ceilings show signs of previous damage. Upstairs, the principal bedrooms are beamed but, uncharacteristically, have high ceilings.

But it is the further 16 bedrooms which warm the heart. Forty boarders are accommodated in these, in pretty white wrought iron beds. Each room reveals a variety of teddies and other furry animals and each cupboard houses the pastel colours of the gingham summer uniform.

The 11 classrooms were full of evidence of the term's efforts. In the art room large painted *papier-mâché* animals had been finished the night before for an exhibition. They were shown off by the art teacher who had reservations about the horse which looked more like a donkey.

Feeling more and more like a prospective parent, I inspected the grounds. A brick loggia leads into a walled rose garden and a gate from here to the kitchen garden and tennis courts. Nearby, a heated swimming pool is screened off by a high hedge, and there is a riding school with stabling for 17 ponies. The gardens are beautifully kept and amount to 43 acres including the parkland. An adjacent farm with 146 acres, also owned by the family, is for sale too.

It is difficult to imagine this house without the children and almost as hard to imagine the pet area bereft of all the rabbits and guinea pigs. It is sad that the school trophies for trampolining and riding will be engraved for the last time.

One of the reasons that this is an appealing school is because it is arranged around a real home. The "homely" atmosphere that all schools strive for is here.

The agents expect the house to be sold for conversion back to a private residence and, with renovation, it will make an impressive place to live.

Unless there is an Old Mother Hubbard buyer who could overrun it with children again or a polygamous gentleman with several wives and many offspring, it will also be a less joyful place.

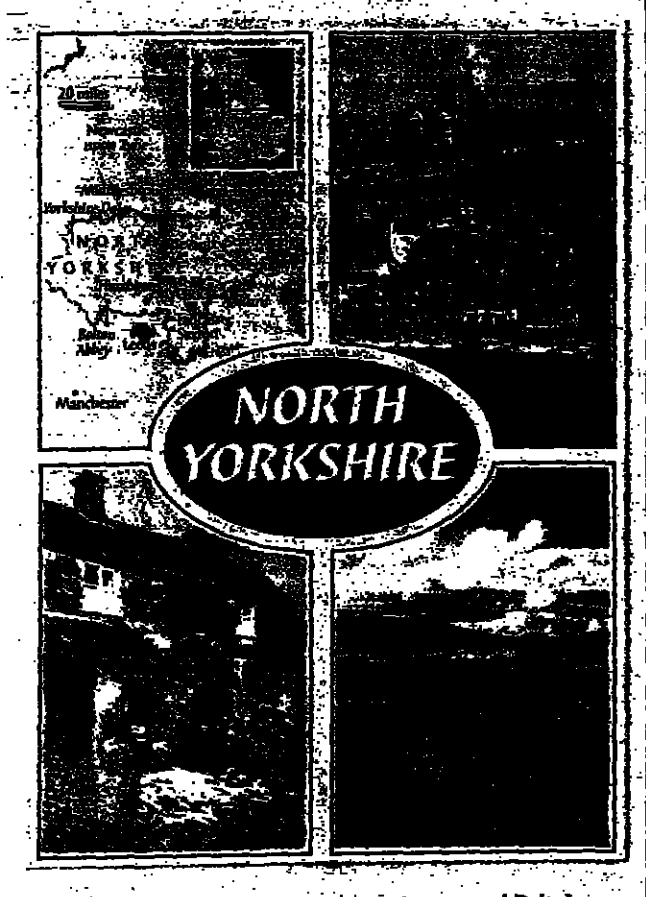
I hope the boarders have a huge farewell midnight feast on their last night.

- *Agent: Strutt & Parker, 01227 451123.*

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Sibton Park, nr Ashford, Kent. ● **Price:** offers in the region of £950,000. Should be little difficulty converting back to private dwelling. ● **Transport:** Channel Tunnel five miles away and Dover 15 miles away. Ashford station has fast services to London (70 minutes) and Eurostar services to Paris and Brussels. ● **Entertainment:** racing at Folkestone, cricket at Canterbury, golf at Sandwich, sailing, angling. ● **Advantages:** New owners will be able to make as much noise as they like as nothing will compare to the decibel level of dozens of little girls at play. ● **Disadvantages:** Old girls forever turning up on the door step to have a look at their old school

PROPERTY PROFILE: NORTH YORKSHIRE



A weekly look at the property market around Britain

Attractions: Boasting two National Parks, in the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors, as well as historic York, Castle Howard, Bolton Abbey and Rievaulx, North Yorkshire also caters for bucket and spaders, around Whitby and Scarborough. The county also lures locomotive aficionados, with the North York Moors Railway from Pickering to Grosmont, while the east coast InterCity service takes only one and three quarter hours from York to London. Property hotspots are within the York, Harrogate and Leeds (over the border) triangle.

The market: Warm, according to Clegg Kennedy Drew in Hovingham. They estimate prices have risen by between 5 and 8 per cent in the past year, and that the number of cash buyers has increased. Savills in York finds that demand outweighs supply for prime properties. The market in the region reached its peak in 1990, says Savills, but fell by about 23 per cent between 1991 and December 1992. Recovery began last year, although prices are still 5 per cent below previous highs.

Expect to pay: Three-bedroom cottages are going for £100,000 to £140,000; traditional farmhouses from £200,000 to £300,000; and medium-size country houses from £400,000 to £500,000, according to Savills. The majority of buyers are from within the area, says Jackson-Stops & Staff in York, which has about three times more applicants now than this time last year, with many looking for village houses and old rectories.

Significant sales: Lead Hall, a 19th-century former farmhouse at Saxton, near Tadcaster, attracted about 100 viewers in two weeks; and joint agents Jackson-Stops & Staff and Lane Fox received 12 offers, selling "handsomely" in excess of its £225,000 guide price. The house is near to the site of the battle of Towton, where 38,000 soldiers fell during the War of the Roses.

Outlook: Promising — Humberts reckons supply will increase, taking the heat out of the market. Jackson-Stops & Staff says the upturn will continue, but also expects supply to improve.

AMANDA LOOSE

- *Next week's property profile: Wiltshire*

Cutting a dash with pebble mosaics

A craft that began with the Greeks has been revived to brighten parks and pavements

When people stumble across the pebble mosaic outside Robert and Anna Dalrymple's house they are amazed the couple did not make it themselves.

"It's not the sort of thing they imagine you can commission people to do," Mr Dalrymple says. The sentiment is fully justified because those who make pebble mosaics for a living appear to be pretty thin on the ground.

The visual arts information service, Axis, has 2,000 names on its database (the National Artists' Register), but has nobody listed in this particular area, while the Crafts Council has just one name, Maggy Howarth.

In fact it was Mrs Howarth who made the mosaic for the Dalrymples. They first saw her work two years ago in a garden at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh and later someone lent them her book, *The Art of Pebble Mosaics*. In the end the couple decided to commission Mrs Howarth to do the work.

On Mrs Howarth's first visit to the Dalrymples' Georgian rectory she measured up and took pictures of the area outside the front door where the abstract mosaic was to be placed to complement the fanlight over the door. Mrs Howarth made the one-metre square piece, in sections, at her Lancashire workshops.

The pebbles are gathered from seashores, riverbeds and quarries all over the country, in what is back-breaking, labour intensive work. Recently, Mrs Howarth made a 400-mile journey to Scotland for a two-day collecting expedition with her assistant, Mark Currie.

However, she points out that you cannot simply search wherever you like, or take any pebbles you might find. Permission for access and to remove any stones must be granted by the owner of the land and ecologically sensitive areas should be avoided.

Back at Mrs Howarth's workshops, the pebbles — black, white, red, brown, green and grey — are sorted into huge wooden trays, so heavy they have to be lifted with a fork-lift truck.

The pebbles are put face down in a mould and then sand worked around them. Next a layer of grout is poured in to fill the gaps between the pebbles and finally concrete is poured in. After hardening, the mould is turned over and the sections — five in the case of the Dalrymples' mosaic — are joined together like a jigsaw. The join cannot be seen.

Pebble mosaic goes back centuries and is still practised in several Mediterranean countries. The ancient Greeks made floors from pebbles, and the Chinese, the Moors in Spain and Renaissance designers in Italy extended the idea to the garden.

It was while redesigning her own cottage garden 15 years ago that Mrs Howarth first experimented with pebbles, following a tradition of fine cobblework that she had observed in nearby towns and villages.

"Before long I realised the possibilities of the medium, not only as a garden ornament but as a way of making decorative pavements to help alleviate some of the boredom of modern townscapes."

Since then, she has completed mosaics all over the country, commissions for city centres, hospitals, schools, parks, conservatories and sites outside private homes.

One couple chose a bird design for their garden because they loved birdwatching, a butcher wanted a sheep and a cow on the pavement outside his shop, another family wanted a "Tree of Life" to celebrate the birth of a child.

Mrs Howarth has just completed a water feature for Bradford city centre and is working on a mosaic for the Dunblane Memorial Gardens with her husband, Boris, a letter carver.

Another commission is for Lytham St Anne's, her 50 sq metre design incorporating windmills, trees, fish and the Lancashire rose. Her ambition is to do a major piece for the millennium.

Commissions are almost always exclusively designed. However, Mrs Howarth does have seven small "off-the-shelf" pebble mosaics for the garden. They range in price from £238 plus £50 delivery for a swallow motif to £655 plus £50 delivery for an exotic bird design that is over a metre in diameter. The cost of a commissioned piece starts from about £800.

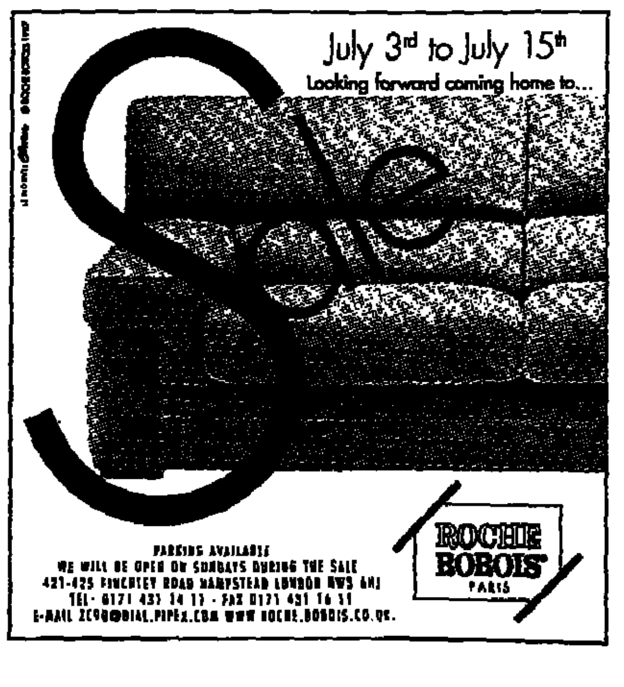
"Most people don't think the mosaics are expensive. We put a lot of effort into selecting the stones and getting the detail right. And they will last for a very long time," Mrs Howarth says.

CHRISTIAN DYMOND

- *Maggy Howarth (Cobblestone Designs): 01524274264*
- *The Art of Pebble Mosaics, by Maggy Howarth, Search Press, Wellwood, North Farm Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3DR. Freephone 0800 146860. Price £11.95, post free.*
- *Axis: 0113 2833125.*
- *The Crafts Council reference desk: 0171-806 2501.*

CHRISTIAN SMITH

Maggy Howarth's pebble work on display on a pavement at Birkenhead Park, Merseyside, left, and outside the Dalrymples' home, above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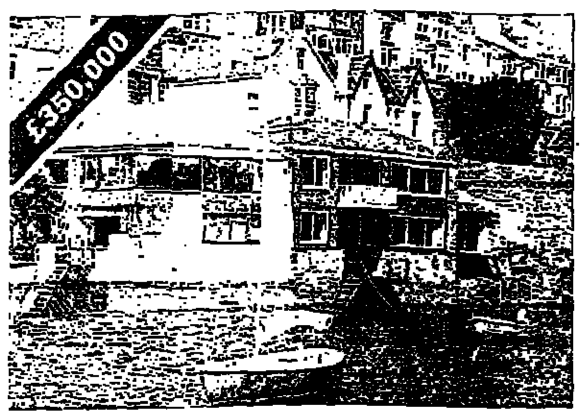
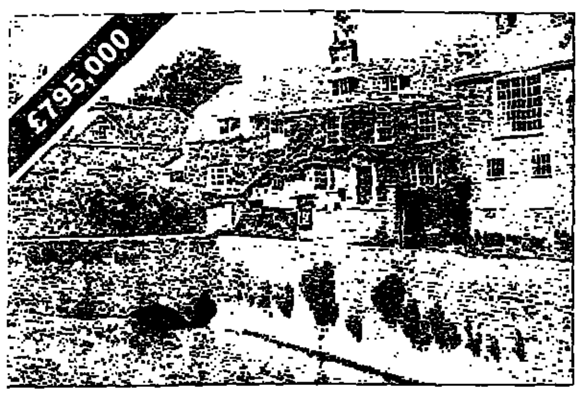


DEVON:
Lidstones, Dartmouth. Former boathouse converted into two apartments and a self-contained studio, with direct access to the river Dart, private landing stage, two running moorings and a covered slip for dinghy storage. Flat one has two en suite bedrooms, a drawing room with balcony, kitchen/dining room and cloakroom. The second has one bedroom, bathroom, living room/kitchen and workshop. About £350,000 (Fulfords, 01392 412007).



HERTFORDSHIRE:
Old Westmill Farm, Ickleford, Hitchin. A 17th-century Grade II listed farmhouse with 15 rooms in need of refurbishment, four-room cottage *with stores and a walled garden, coach house with eight rooms and a* studio, barns and stable block in three acres of gardens fronting the *river Oughton. About £795,000 (Lane Fox, 01582 764343).*

OXFORDSHIRE:
Gaunt Mill, Standlake. Grade II listed period mill house in 23 acres of tranquil gardens and paddocks on the river Windrush. Three bedroom suites, three reception rooms, kitchen, conservatory and cloakroom. Cottage divided into two two-bedroom self-contained flats. About £665,000 (01865 790077).

CHERYL TAYLOR

Postcodes from the edge

CLIFFORD HARPER

If a home in that smart area is beyond your means, keep on down the road, says

Amanda Loose

Mention Buckinghamshire *to house hunters* and they may well wax lyrical about the lure of the Chiltern village of Hambleden. Say Gloucestershire and they will *probably focus on the Cotswolds.* Cheshire prompts thoughts of Cheadle or Chester, while if Surrey is their destination, the target area is likely to be somewhere near Guildford.

In London, certain fashionable areas are known as "golden postcodes" because the number of prospective buyers easily exceeds the number of available properties in them. This means inflated prices and, inevitably, disappointment for many house hunters.

The answer to finding a property you like and can afford, estate agents say, is to be more open-minded from the outset. "Often, if buyers looked 30 minutes down the road from their chosen area, they would have a good chance of finding something they liked at a manageable price," says John Husband of Humberts.

"When people first start looking for a property, they have a fixed idea of where they want to live, what they want to buy and how much they want to spend," says Ivor Dickinson of Douglas and Gordon. "Buyers often call our Fulham office in London and say they will not consider living anywhere else. Yet more than 30 per cent of these people will eventually buy in a different area, such as Battersea or Clapham, which they originally *considered a non-starter.*"

Looking farther than fashionable areas and the "golden postcodes", or just beyond the "acceptable" hour's commuting time from your place of work, can often reap benefits and savings without severely compromising your notion of the ideal home or forsaking attractive countryside.

Peter Wilde of Compass Relocation in Peterborough, whose clients have often narrowed their target area to *just three or four villages, says:* "We explain to buyers the difficulty of achieving the desired result and offer a range of alternatives. In most cases they will consider the wider options, particularly if they are keen to buy a house quickly."

The essential thing is to research your chosen area carefully. Always take advice from an agent with good local knowledge and try to get an overall feel for the place.

Subtle boundaries can sometimes separate the affordable from the out-of-your-range. Jonathan Drinkwater of Butler Sherborn in Tetbury, Gloucestershire, reckons that buyers can avoid a hefty premium by looking an extra 15 minutes down a major road or rail line — and cites the Leigh in Coaley, near Dursley, Gloucestershire, as a prime example. This Grade II* listed farmhouse, in need of some renovation, *is for sale at £395,000: some 15* per cent less than it would cost in the nearby Cotswolds.

Christopher Dewe of Knight Frank says there is a "magical" line beyond *which prices drop markedly as the* commuting time to London reaches nearly two hours. In Surrey, Michael Parry-Jones of Browns in Guildford estimates that prices fall by 5-7 per cent for every two miles travelled from Guildford towards Farnham. The properties and countryside are just as appealing, he says, but the train services are just not as good.

Farther south, Richard Williscroft of Henry Adams and Partners in Chichester, West Sussex, is selling *the Old Parsonage at Sidlesham,* south of the A27, for about £325,000. Had it been in the Downs, just north of the A27, it would probably have cost at least £100,000 more.

Similarly, Jeremy Smallman of Strutt & Parker is offering Holme Lodge, a large family house with a paddock in Holme, Bedfordshire, for £250,000. Move it 20 minutes farther south down the A1 and the asking price would be at least £500,000.

Mike Keeble of Strutt & Parker suggests that people looking for property in smart North Yorkshire would do better to look north of the *A66 in County Durham, "which has* a downmarket name but beautiful countryside — and where you can get value for money".

Michael Parry-Jones of Browns in Guildford says: "I advise buyers to cover *as many of their requirements* as they can and, if they find six out of ten of their original ideals, they are doing well. Often the end result is very different from the original brief, *but they end up happy.*"

BARGAIN AREAS

- ■ Kent: choose east rather than west, where properties can cost up to 30 per cent more, Cluttons says.
- ■ Lincolnshire: the area around Grantham offers the best value, with large country houses going for about £365,000, says Savills.
- ■ Cambridge: about 30 miles north of Cambridge, you can find a small mansion for about £295,000, according to Bidwells. Within five miles of the city, that price would be at least double.
- ■ Yorkshire: the best hunting-grounds are to the south and east of the A64, says Savills. Traditional period houses there cost about £50,000 less than in the north and west of the county.
- ■ Cumbria: look outside the Lake District National Park, advises *Cluttons, to find farmhouses selling for* £160,000-£170,000, compared with *£200,000-£350,000 inside the park.*
- ■ Hampshire: if you are attracted to Lymington, on the edge of the New Forest, John D. Wood recommends looking for properties to the north of the town's high street.
- ■ London: choose with care in central London. The Peterborough Estate properties in Fulham are divided by the Wandsworth Bridge Road; those on the west side go for at least £100,000 more than those on the east side, says *Anthony Walker of Friend and Falcke.*

If you are lured by fashionable Notting Hill and Holland Park but stumped by the prices, try the Bayswater and Paddington fringes such as Westbourne Terrace or the north end of Ladbroke Grove, says Mark Cullen of Foxtons. A two-bedroom flat there will cost between £170,000 and £250,000.

In Belgravia, north of Victoria station, a mews house would go for between £400,000 and £500,000; in Pimlico, just to the south, a more modest £300,000, says James Gubbins of Dauntons.

In north London, West Hampstead is a less expensive alternative to sought-after Hampstead village.

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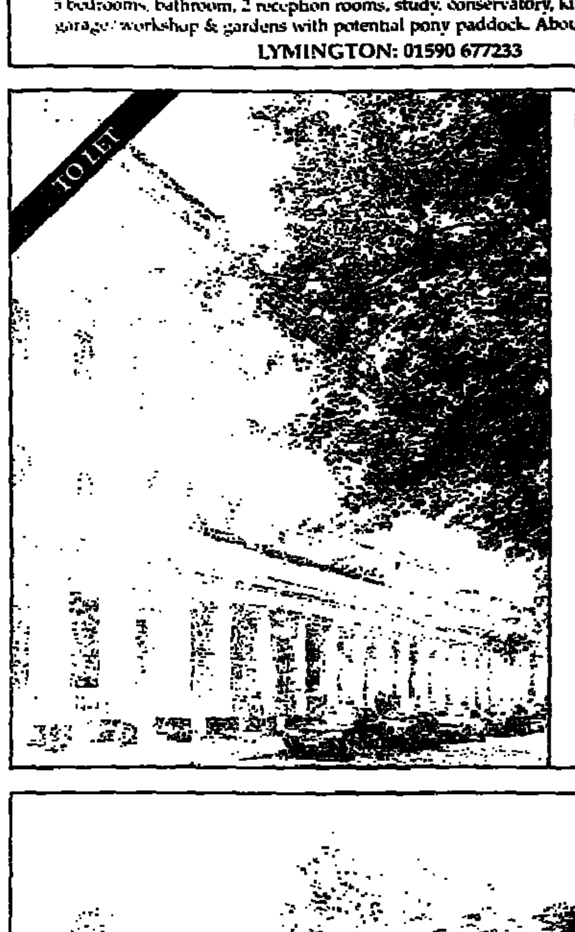

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Freehold

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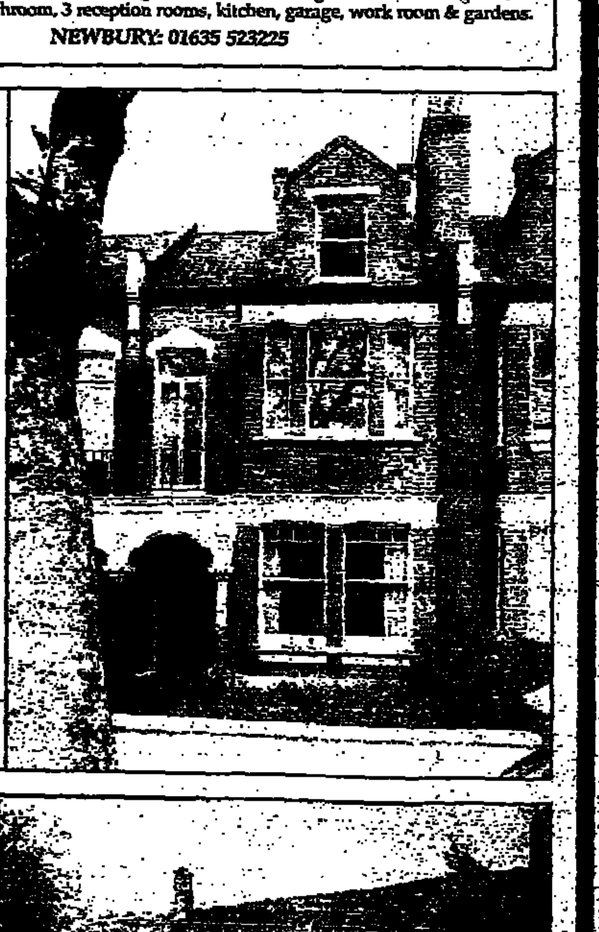

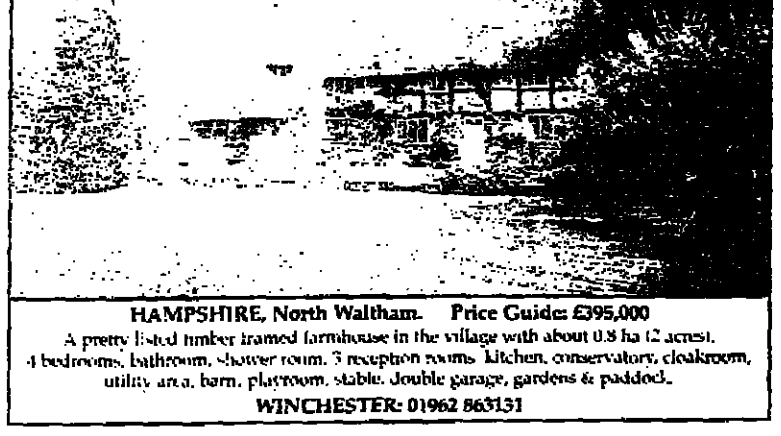

HAMPSHIRE, North Waltham.   Price Guide: £395,000
A pretty listed timber framed farmhouse in the village with about 0.8 ha (2 acres).
4 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, conservatory, cloakroom, utility area, barn, playroom, stable, double garage, gardens & paddock.
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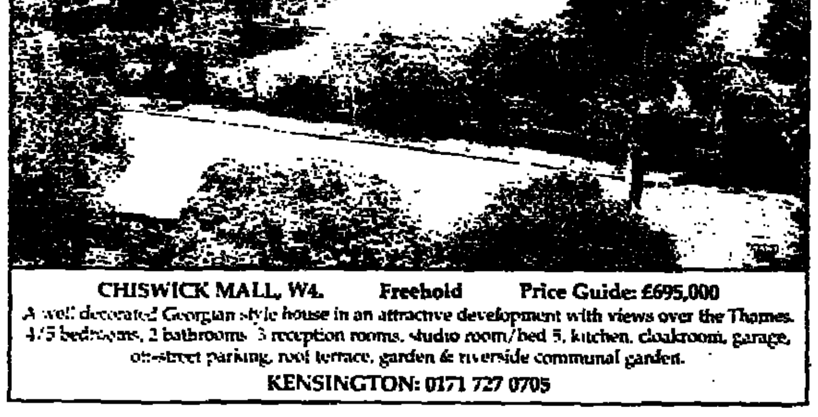

CHISWICK MALL, W4.   Freehold   Price Guide: £695,000
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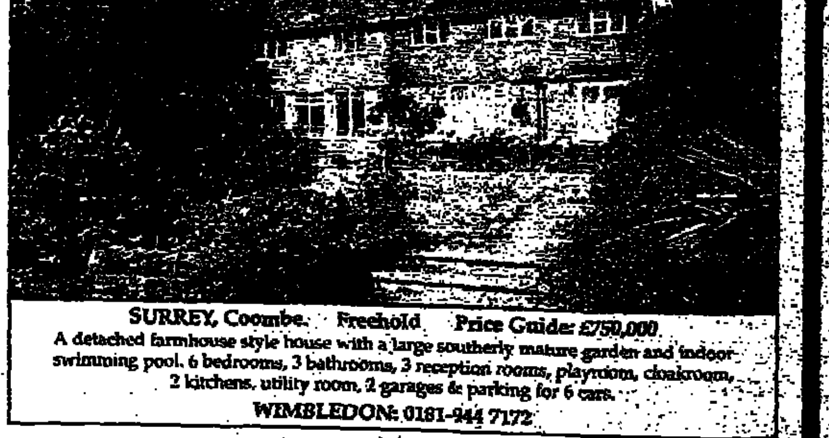
KENSINGTON: 0171 727 0705



SURREY, Coombe.   Freehold   Price Guide: £750,000
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Beverly Hills Club	Tenerife	September	2	High	4	2500
Royal Sunset Beach Club	Tenerife	November	1	High	4	2000
Royal Tenerife Country Club	Tenerife	October	4	High	6	2800
Club Olympus	Tenerife	Sept/Oct	2	High	4	1400
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Lanzarote Beach Club	Lanzarote	September	2	High	6	2795
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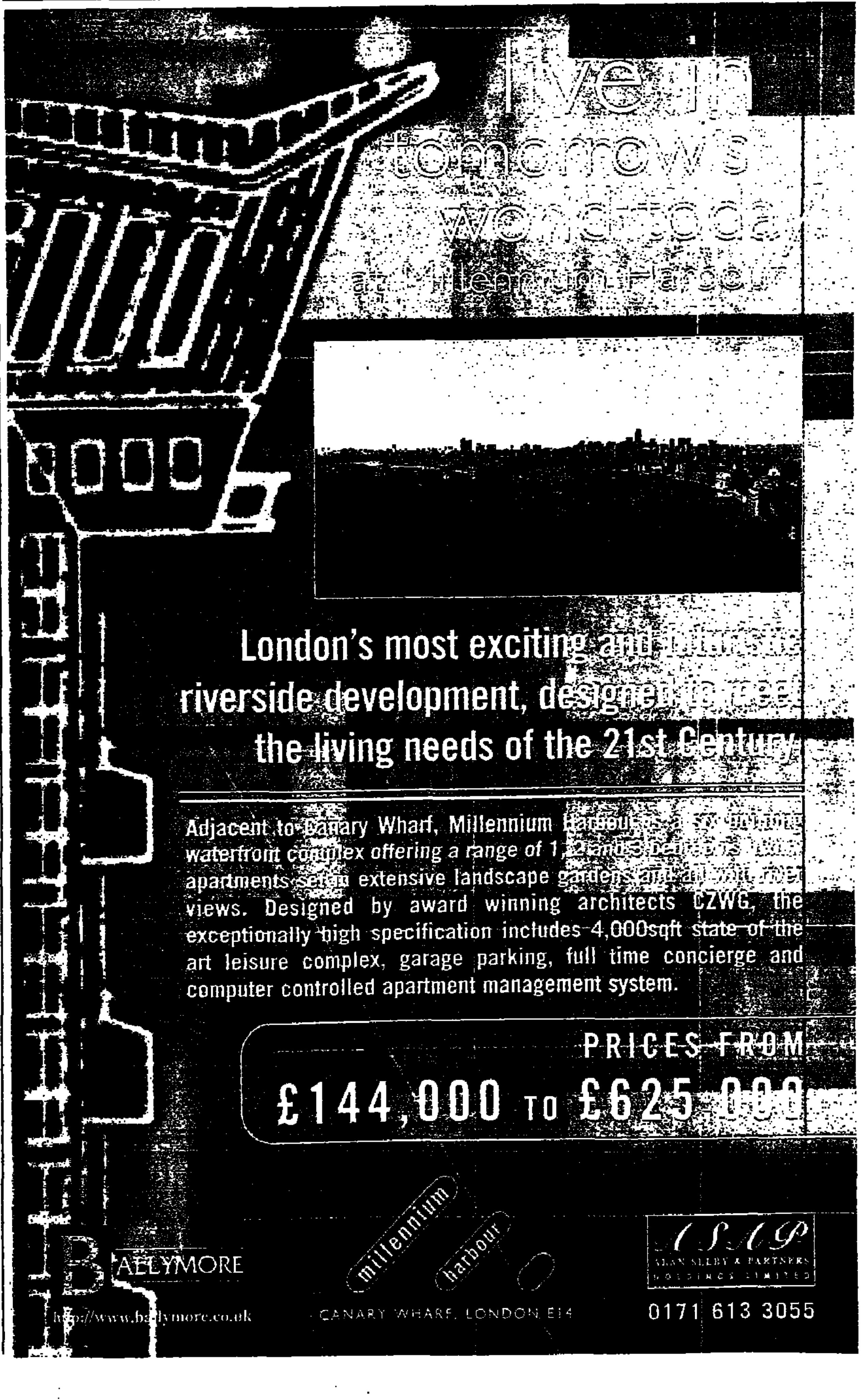

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Linda Duffin on the dating agency that introduces red-blooded American men to prospective British brides

Hi, I'm Texan and I'm single

GEORGE WILKY

Raymond Campbell, the operator of Scottish Sweetheart Tours, with Aileen, Clare, *Libby and Linda, looking for Mr Right* with some trepidation and scepticism

Our eyes meet across a crowded bar — then travel on. Raymond Campbell *fails to live up* (or down) to my cardboard cut-out concept of a Texan. He's not tall, beefy or loud. However, he is wearing a checked cowboy shirt *and a label* which says "Scottish Sweetheart Tours". Raymond, you see, runs a dating agency.

For nine months, he has been introducing red-blooded American *males to prospective* Irish brides, flying them to Dublin for twice-yearly get-togethers and tickling their romantic tastebuds in between, with videos, photographs and details of what can best be described as their particulars. He claims a *reasonable success* rate for Irish Sweetheart Tours — no marriages yet, but three ongoing transatlantic *relationships*. Not a bad strike rate considering only 15 men have *visited* so far.

Now Raymond is launching a similar operation in Scotland. "The fellas are the hunters," he says. "They will pay the money and travel *in order to meet the ladies*. I'm optimistic that Scottish women will have an open mind."

Quite why *these men* are seeking foreign brides is unclear, although in *Texas*, where *size* is everything, women apparently have a disproportionate interest in the size of *their partners'* cheque books.

American men often shop for brides in *Eastern Europe* and *Latin* America. But there, on top of language and cultural difficulties, *the wannabe bridegroom faces* the visa problem. "You're under pressure to either marry them within 90 days or send them back," Raymond says.

Scottish *and* Irish *women*, however, can hop on and off planes as often as they like — and have the added allure of coming from the Auld Country. With 40 million *Americans* claiming Irish descent there is a big market for a bit of Celtic charisma. Redheads are much in demand, so are babies and traditional family values, so it is *with much interest and some* trepidation that I arrange a blind date of my own for Raymond.

It is a triple whammy — voluptuous, vivacious redhead actress Libby, leggy black-haired Clare and Aileen who, by happy coincidence, designs and makes wedding dresses. They are all single, solvent thirty-somethings looking for Mr Right — and they are all *independent*, outspoken Scots.

The three women pore over Raymond's *Catalog of American Men*, a brochure with the personal *details* and *pictures* of the putative bridegrooms. "My God, this one looks like a psychopath," Libby says. He does indeed look an alarming individual. The wish-lists *of some of the men* are optimistic, to say the least. The women view the attraction to Celts with suspicion, *conjuring as it does the shade of* John Wayne bending feisty Maureen O'Hara *to his will* in *The Quiet Man*. "It seems to me they're looking for a blank canvas they can *project their fantasy on to*," Libby says. Not so, Raymond says.

"Ninety-nine-point-five per cent of them are very sincere, and very interested in meeting a nice lady," *he says earnestly. The* 0.5 per cent go in his "Bubba File" — the no-hopers who *Raymond* says know how to fish and drink beer, but not much else, and who are politely *excluded from his tours. The rest*, he says, are looking for happiness in a relationship. "I've been asked, '*why are they* desperate?' Nobody says they're desperate. For the most part, they just *haven't* their special person."

Their search resumes in September — a week in Dublin followed by their first visit to Scotland. *Raymond* finds prospective brides through advertising, word of mouth and singles' clubs. Male *clients are usually responding* to his advertisements in the States.

Despite their reservations, the three women are caving in fast. Far from being the pushy type we all expected, *the Texan matchmaker* blinks at us with mild brown eyes and exudes a sort of howdy-doody *charm*. His background is in brokerage and mergers and acquisitions. *Beneath his homely* checked shirt beats the steely heart of a marketing man.

Quietly persistent without being pushy, Raymond could sell fridges to *Eskimos*, coals to Newcastle and log cabins to backwoodsmen, and still leave them basking in the glow *of his sincerity*.

Before you can say "mine's a half and a half", the hard-nosed women are filling in forms detailing their hearts' desires and having their *photographs taken* for the catalogue — three Maureens yielding to the Quiet Man. "I used to go home with a guy," Clare says. "Now I go home with a brochure."

By the cold light of day, however, it is a different story. The questions as to the men's motives in looking *for foreign brides remain* unanswered.

"There's something about the catalogue that's horribly wrong-footed," Libby says. "It's outmoded and outdated — *as if they're coming* to rescue us when we don't want to be rescued, as if we're country lasses who won't be *sophisticated* enough to know any better. I'm not going to play the game of being the little woman. Me and Clare and Aileen are single by choice — not because *we're unlovable*."

Libby's misgivings are shared by Sandra Menoni, who runs Initial Approach, a Scottish dating agency based in Dunblane. Raymond Campbell *is hoping to link up with* her members. Sandra is dubious about his vetting procedures — and, after meeting him at a barn dance, the ladies declared him and *his clients doomed to failure*.

"We offered to arrange a social event if they came to Scotland, but Raymond Campbell said he wanted a ratio of three women to one man. *It's* too much like a cattle market," Sandra says. "They're looking for doormats. They want *them barefoot and pregnant* and in the kitchen. My members want *quality introductions* and a quality evening out. Most of my ladies thought his catalogue was quite *tacky*."

Raymond is unlikely to be deterred. He says there is no shortage of men willing to fly half way across the world in order to find the *woman they want*. "*I can't guarantee* them a wife, but I can tell them that at a minimum they'll have a great vacation and make some good friends," he says.

Kitty and Rover veg out

Many pet owners are asking if their dogs and cats can survive on a meat-free diet. **Lottie Moggach** reports

ANDREW HASSON

Richard Farhall of the Vegan Society feeds his cats with vegetarian pet food

Must dogs and cats eat *meat? Anyone who* has seen a dog's ears prick up at a tin of Chum, or their cat's paw inch towards a plate of chicken on a table, *would probably think so. The* established view of household pets is that they are biologically evolved carnivores, with the same natural instincts and *dietary needs as their wild* ancestors, and we have traditionally fed them on the domestic version of freshly caught meat — tinned pet food.

Now, however, more people are deciding to stop eating meat, and even all animal *products*. For pet owners, there's a dilemma: can it be *right, nutritionally and morally*, to impose a vegetarian diet on dogs and cats?

The Vegan Society, promoters of vegetarian pet foods, *believe that the image of dogs* and cats as tamed wild animals, whose natural instincts are to kill their own food, is misleading. So domesticated *are they that few traces remain* of their ancestors' bloodlust.

The Pet Food Manufacturers' Association (PFMA) agrees that prepared food *provides dogs and cats with* better nutrition than they would probably receive if they scavenged for themselves.

When it comes to non-meat *prepared foods the most im*portant thing to remember, they say, is that dogs and cats are very different creatures, with individual dietary re*quirements. Dogs are physio*logically similar to humans, in that they can derive essential vitamins from plants, so they can live healthily on a vegetar*ian diet*.

Simon Haigh of Happidog, which makes a dry soya pet food, says: "There have been vegetarian and vegan dogs *around for years. Many dogs* have allergies to meat, anyway."

These alternative foods consist of chicken and beef fla*voured TVP, or textured* vegetable protein, and if your dog can be persuaded, they may well be worth a try. TVP has been proven to help with *pancreatic and small intestine* problems and skin disorders, and works out considerably cheaper than tinned food.

Cats, however, are a different matter. The PFMA says *firmly that* "*cats are obligate* carnivores". Unlike humans and dogs, they can only derive certain nutrients from meat, the three vital ones being *vitamin A, arachidonic* acid and taurine.

It is possible to provide artificial vitamin A and *arachidonic acid:* however, taurine has long been thought only to be found in animal products. But according to Richard Farhall, spokes*man for the Vegan Society, it is* possible to obtain synthesized taurine.

Vegetarian cat food, however, is still a long way off *from being endorsed by the* official governing bodies. The PFMA insists on laboratory trials, which the Vegan Society is opposed to, before it can *agree that taurine* can be adequately synthesised.

The main problem for owners, says Richard Farhall, is that Vegecat is only a supple*ment to a rather elaborate* suggested menu — including nutritional yeast flakes, grated raw vegetables, oil, and soya sauce — unsurprisingly, it can take up to three months for a cat to accept it.

Jane Staffieri, a vegan for *the past seven years*, has raised her three-year-old cat on Vegecat from a kitten. Having established his preferred meal — based on soya *mince* and rice — *she* makes batches every 12 days, and then adds Vegecat and fresh vegetables. "I wouldn't keep a cat if I had to feed him meat," she says. However, she wouldn't impose a vegetarian diet on an older cat who had been brought up *a carnivore*. "That is cruel. I am aware that cats probably prefer meat."

Vets' opinions on the issue are divided. David Jagger vouches for the "quality and adequacy" of the Vegecat diet, while others do not believe that owners should impose their ideologies on their animals. Cat owners will probably agree with James Allcock, the *Times* vet, that when the *chips are down, the cat has the* final word. "It may be theoretically possible to feed a cat a non-meat diet if taurine is added — but will the cat eat it?" Cats *have kept enough* of their ancestors' blood to refuse a plate of soya and salad, and just go and catch a mouse instead.

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A VET WRITES

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JAMES ALLCOCK

● *Write to The Times Vet, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. No correspondence can be entered into.*

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‘Explaining the facts of life is all fine and dandy in theory, but in practice the crucial difficulty is knowing how much detail to supply’

The serious business of sex

LIFE AND SOUL

GINNY DOUGARY

The details are hazy but the picture is still embarrassingly clear. We are playing ping-pong in my Mum and Dad's garage, listening to *Hair* on the tangerine record-player. The previous week my parents have been taken to see the musical by one of my father's racier business contacts and his wife. Since my father was very much a whisky rather than a weed man, this could have been a defining Sixties moment for him. But it was not to be. No sooner had a bare-chested hippy from the cast handed him a flower and attempted to spread love 'n' peace over his cheek than he was off — with my mother reluctantly in tow.

I was about 12, and my friend must have been a year or so older. Toc toc goes the ball against our bats, as we warble our way through the songs. "Wear it long like Jesus wore it — Allelluia, don't you adore it? Share it . . . bare it . . . wear it . . . long, beautiful . . . hair!"; "This is the dawning of the age of Aquarius . . ." and then — I can feel my cheeks burning at the memory —"Massstiurrrbayshon can be fun . . . join the holy orgy Kama Sutra . . . everyone." Toc toc, toc toc. "What exactly is masturbation?" I ask.

My parents didn't believe in furnishing me with the facts of life. "It wasn't the done thing in our day," my mother tells me when I ask her why. "We rather expected you to be telling us what it was all about." No chance of parents being so insouciantly unworldly these days. What with our middle-class angst and our child-centric culture, we couldn't possibly get away with being so casual about *something as serious as sex.*

If I cast my mind further back to my childhood, we seemed to be at it all the time. Not "it" itself, of course, but a version of it nonetheless. Perhaps the desert heat was responsible for enflaming our nascent sexual selves. Perhaps it was the 1950s taboo about sex which gave our childish play such an irresistible charge. Whatever the reason, the boys and girls I knew liked nothing better than "playing willies", which usually took the conventional doctors and nurses form — mixing "potions" to smear on "private parts" — but occasionally descended into a junior master-slave routine replete with bondage.

Once, I remember, my mother summoned me into the living-room with my friend Justin and said that the cook had seen us "showing ourselves" to one another in the sand pit. What I can still recall absolutely, was the sense that she didn't really take it seriously and, indeed, was struggling to retain some control over her rebellious features.

I would be wise, I know, not to poke too much fun at this spectacle since it can only be a matter of time before I play my mother's role as I half-heartedly set about chastising one of my sons for an equally harmless misdemeanour.

Our older son was five when he asked — out of the blue — "Mummy, what's sex?" Fortunately, I had prepared so thoroughly for every stage of parenthood at least half-a-dozen stages in advance (more anxiety), that I had some idea of what to say. My bedside bible was Dr Hugh Jolly's *Book of Child Care*: "Don't ever put off the opportunity to talk about sex on the grounds that your child is 'too young to understand'," he advised in his deliciously firm but reassuring way. "If he is old enough to ask a question on any subject, he is old enough to be answered."

This is all fine and dandy in theory, but in practice the crucial difficulty is knowing how much detail to supply — particularly when you are dealing with a mind of quite fearsome and persistent inquisitiveness. No way was our guy going to be palmed off with some *nebulous story* about sperm and eggs. Oh no. He wanted the nitty-gritty *facts*: "But how, Mum, does the man's sperm get to be anywhere near the woman's eggs?" So I told him and his eyes widened and he looked at his father and back at *his mother and — not surprisingly —* giggled in disbelief.

Since then his appetite for information has become voracious. But he seems markedly less babyish about the subject than most of the grown-up men who read *Loaded*. It must be all that Latin terminology — no front-bottom and back-bottom stuff for us — and our ability to make sex sound as unexciting as possible.

Sex nearly always seems to take you by surprise. His younger brother and I were reading a wholesomely educational book called *I Wonder Why My Tummy Rumbles*, when suddenly — and rather sneakily — the Facts of Life leapt out on the very last pages, just when *you're* feeling pleasantly yawny, under the heading: "Where do I come from?" It was just as well the six-year-old was as tired as me, and did not seem particularly interested in exploring the answer. Just as well too, because later that night his older brother had a question for me. "Mum, what's a wanker?"

Here we go again.

Why there's a school in my dining room

Would children learn better at home than at school? **Emma Haughton** finds more and more parents think so

The day a friend disclosed her plan to withdraw her six-year-old son from our local primary school to educate him at home with his two younger brothers, I thought it was mad, bad and dangerous: mad to have three boys under her feet all day, bad to risk them becoming socially isolated and withdrawn, and dangerous to attempt a curriculum that defeats many teachers.

It conjured up nightmare visions of maladjusted child prodigies constantly chaperoned by their pushy and over-protective parents.

According to Paula Turner, who teaches her four girls from their Birmingham home, mine was a common reaction. "We get an awful lot of criticism about home education," she says.

"*I must admit when I first* heard about it, I thought it was rather weird and alternative. But when I had my last child and suddenly realised that someone else would be having *my* children for the best six hours of the day, I decided to look into it."

What she found was that home-schooling in the UK is quite legal; parents are simply required to provide an education *appropriate* to their child's age and abilities. (The LEA may do home inspections or ask for an outline of intended work.)

Three years later Paula and Barrie — "Mr and Mrs Average with no higher qualifications," as Paula describes themselves — haven't looked back.

Nor have her children. When she discussed her plans *with Elizabeth and Georgina*, they were ecstatic. "I asked them what they'd miss about school and they said friends and tuck. They see friends after school, and we have a tuck shop at home."

Days in the Turner household are enviably varied and relaxed. Although Paula aims for eight hours of formal education a week, she finds that freed from the constraints *of a curriculum they often end* up doing other things.

"That's the beauty of it, you can go with the flow," she says. "Children learn faster if what they are taught is applied to everyday life. They can see better why they have to know things."

Paula describes her girls as happy and confident — "not being with their peer group for 30 hours a week takes the pressure off" — and her own life as tiring, but fulfilling.

"Being a Christian, it's a lot easier teaching them from home. I was spending a lot of time tackling the values they came home with from school. I didn't like things like evolution being taught as fact, for instance, but there were also the playground attitudes, the look-after-number-one, kick-any-one-who-is-down sort of thing. I wanted to show them they *could have better values.*"

Family relationships, already good, have become closer. They have more time and more fun together, understand each other better, talk to each other more.

"When the kids were at school they would ask us questions, and we wouldn't know whether our answers went over their heads or were too obvious. Now we're much *more in tune with them.*"

Aren't there any drawbacks? "My ironing doesn't get done," *she says*, without much hint of regret. "There's not much time for housework, but it will still be there when they've grown up. You get it done eventually. Often the kids help, we work as a team tidying up, vacuuming, hanging out the washing — after all, they're learning skills for life."

NEWSTEAM

Paula Turner teaches her children at home in Birmingham. "Children learn faster if what they are taught is applied to everyday life. They can see better why they have to know things"

Paula and Barrie are not as unusual as they seem, but one of a growing number of parents choosing to educate their children at home. These parents aren't concerned with turning their child into a mathematical genius, but feel school stifles children's creativity and independence.

Research by Grace Llewellyn, a former US middle-school teacher, suggests they may be right. Examining entries in the US *Current Biography Yearbook*, covering people prominent in their fields, she found that about one in five had dropped out of school or had not had much formal schooling.

In her new book, *The Teenage Liberation Handbook*, Llewellyn lists various alumni from the school of life — William Blake, Charles Dickens, Henry Ford, George Gershwin, John Houston, Mozart, David Puttnam, to name but a few — and concludes that school actually inhibits rather than fosters the learning process.

Judith, 33, who lives with her husband Colin and two boys, would be the first to agree. "I went to pretty good private schools, but didn't get much out of them. I was bored to tears and unhappy most of the time. I didn't want my children to go through the kind of things I went through."

Judith *went to considerable* lengths to keep her children out of school. Before converting their west London maisonette into flats, she got up before the boys to work in the family bakery, then spent all day with them before returning to baking after they had gone to bed.

Even *now she has* little time to herself. "I could do with a bit more," she admits. "People say: 'How can you bear having them around you all the time?' Generally it's not a problem, but sometimes, like any mother, I've had enough at the end of a long day."

Louis, nearly eight, and Rupert, nearly six, are confident and secure, happy to join in their Saturday music class. "They are fearless around adults," says Judith. "They've not got that reverence for authority that school instils."

A local home-schooling club, where parents and children meet once a week, provides valuable social contact within a wide age-range — a more natural way to mix, she believes, than school, where children learn to despise those younger than themselves and live in fear of those older.

Like Paula, Judith finds that studying one-to-one means her children achieve a lot in a short time, leaving days free for other activities. "You soon realise that children just learn," she says. "You just facilitate that, answering questions and making it easier for them to find things out. Hopefully they won't consider the whole process as something horrible that leads to exams."

For others, home education is a more temporary interlude than a permanent state. Pien and Bob educated Anna, 18, and Saskia, ten, at their north London home until they were ten and eight respectively.

Pien, now chair of Education Otherwise, the home-schooling support group, could not reconcile herself to sending her daughter to school at the tender age of four. "It's far too early," she says. "If a child starts school and they're not ready for reading, all their creativity is channelled into that. They are stifled at school, they don't learn creativity in life."

Bob, an architect, believes home-schooling made his *daughters more self-reliant.* "They're *more* oriented towards learning when they want to learn, not so much seeing it as something forced," he says.

Bob and Pien felt their children should go to school eventually. "At a certain age they need to be with other children in bigger groups. Being at home is too limiting," Pien says.

Fortunately, the girls took to school "like ducks to water. They had no problems, educational or social. They are very popular, very at ease with adults and other children".

The years together created a firm foundation for the family, Pien says. "We've got to know each other much better, and that closeness doesn't go away." She describes Anna, recently accepted at art college, as independent and mature for her age. "I'm confident she can make her own decisions, and she never seems to have the urge to rebel. If she wants to do something she simply discusses it."

Not many parents of teenagers can say that. Perhaps my friend is right. Perhaps there really is no place like home.

- The Teenage Liberation Handbook *will be published in August by Element Books (£5.99)*
- *Education Otherwise, PO Box 7420, London N9 9SG (0891 518303).*

Ruth Gledhill hears a strong Methodist message in a service designed for young people

Follow your conscience, not the crowd

ON OUR WAY in, everyone was invited to take a stone. At the front, a banner spelt out SOW, for Sense of Worship. The church was half-full with teenagers and children, uniformly dressed in jeans, sweatshirts and trainers. I was the second oldest person there, and wondered if I was getting too old for church.

SOW, a contemporary service held each month at Hucclecote Methodist Church, Gloucester, had travelled to one of Methodism's foundation stones, Wesley's chapel in the City of London, for a service that coincided with the start of the Methodist Conference at Westminster. At Hucclecote, imaginative use of traffic lights, chocolates, a fountain and a mirror ball have helped attract a growing congregation to church over the past two years. We *had no mirror* balls but there were tiny, coloured spotlights and central to the service was a "stone ritual".

These services are rarely pre-ordained. Each month a planning group, which includes a computer analyst, an ordained minister and a television producer, begins by sitting down with a blank sheet of paper, "brainstorming" ideas and then producing a service. For ours, the theme was "I need a hero".

In a "peace song" from the Philippines, we sang of tears from the heavens which were tears for the earth "that forgets how to bring seed to life" while outside, in the wettest June for years, the heavens had actually stopped crying for a few hours. Then there was "the story of Bertie Balloon". A pink balloon was blown up as we were taken through Bertie's life — birth, fast-track career, bigger cars and bigger houses, marriage to a wife he rarely saw. Finally, on retirement, he went "pop" and disappeared. The message was clear — materialism is wrong, don't strive for success, dare to be different — as if conformism is in itself a sin. I wondered what John Wesley, who opened this chapel in 1778 and who urged his followers to work hard and save hard, would have made of this. In other respects, however, the message was *good, in urging the youngsters* to resist peer group pressure to smoke, drink and take drugs. "We are tempted to follow the crowd, even when we know it is *wrong and our* conscience is a still, small voice," the worship leader said during prayers.

We were urged to contemplate our stones. "If you wish, you may place your stone at the foot of the cross as a sign that you take Jesus as your hero." Or, the leader said, we could take our burdens home with us. The youngsters laid them at the foot of the cross. The other adult there held on to his, and I clung tightly to mine. These rituals are a growing phenomenon in our churches, and as a result there is now a nice pile of stones outside my front door.

- *Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, London EC1Y 1AU (0171-253 2262).*

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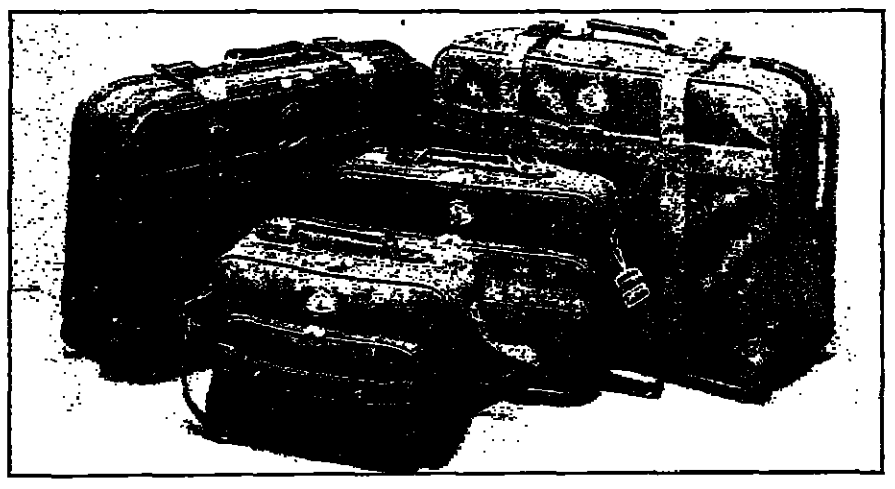

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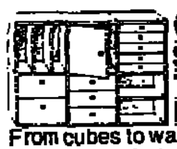

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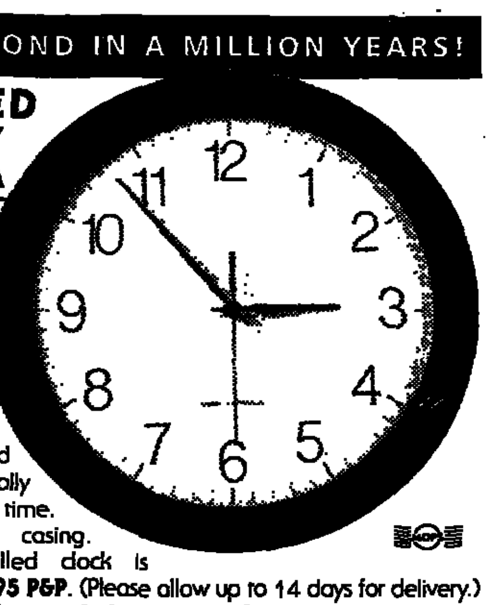

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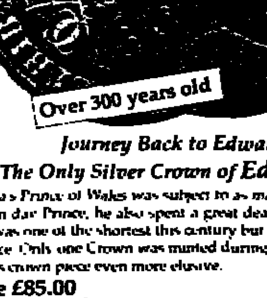

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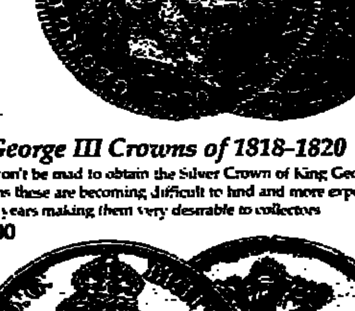

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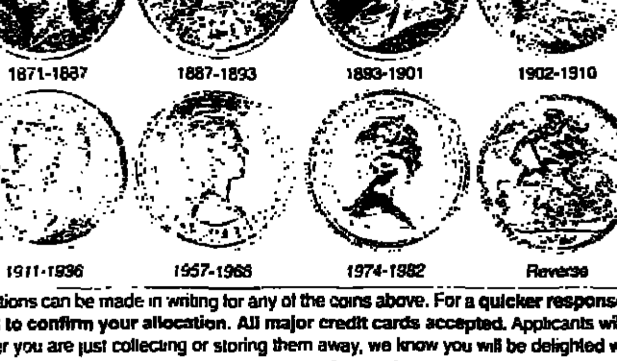

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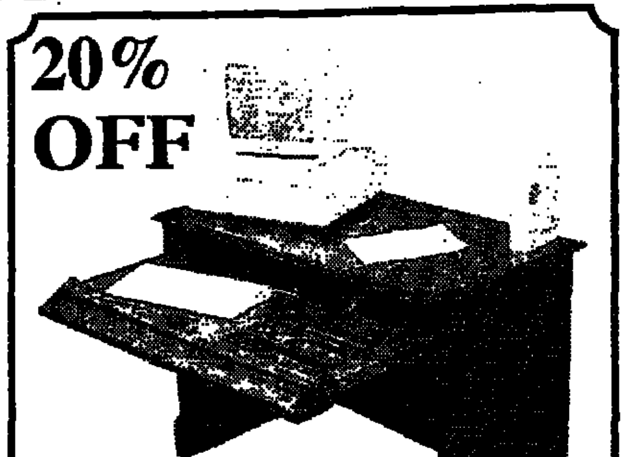

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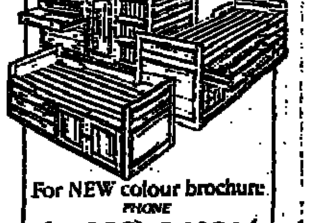

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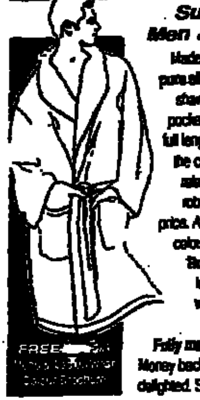

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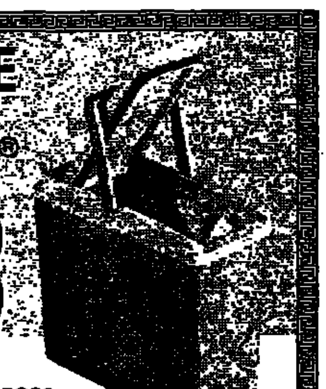

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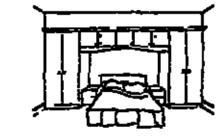

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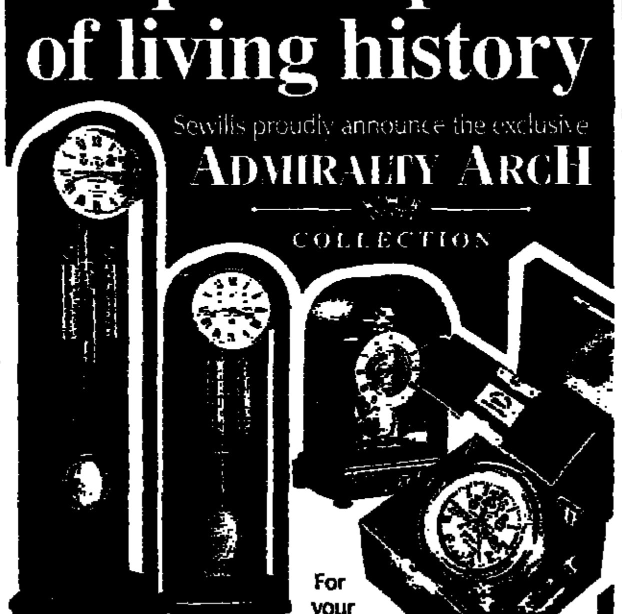

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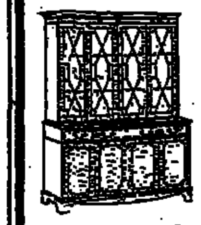

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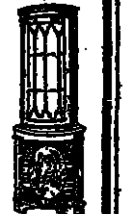

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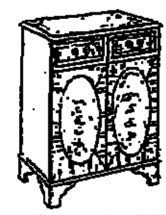

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Man at the helm of the new-look RAC

Page 2

THE TIMES

CAR 97

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Page 5

SATURDAY JULY 5 1997

Sth

Alan Copps meets the youthful British experts competing with Honda to beat the world fuel-economy record

Teenage tyros on 4,000mpg drive

PETER TREVNOR

As the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, announced that he was increasing the duty on petrol, I was driving along the motorway in a Jaguar. I glanced at the fuel gauge and stopped at the next service station to top up. It swallowed 40 litres (8.8 gallons) of unleaded at a cost of £26, a saving of £1.60 on the price a few hours later, and enough fuel to travel around 200 miles.

Then I thought of the car I had just been looking at. That amount of fuel would have been sufficient to carry it 20,257 miles, that's from London to Beijing and back. But next week it will be competing against another vehicle *capable of circling the* equator (24,902 miles) on just 2½ gallons of petrol.

The car I had been examining is the EB2, which last year won the junior section of the Shell Mileage Marathon with an average of 2,302 miles per gallon. Its successor, with a home-made engine that ran for the first time this week, is expected double that.

But when the young engineers behind this project go into this year's marathon at Silverstone on Friday week, the seniors will include Team 1200, a group of Honda's engineers who are the new record-holders at 9,427mpg and who will be aiming to break the 10,000mpg barrier.

We are talking here about extremes, about vehicles free of any of the constraints of passenger carrying, comfort, safety, speed and all the other factors that make our road cars return figures that are tiny fractions of those above.

Faced with increasingly *stringent European rules on* emissions, Volkswagen is developing a car that will achieve 90mpg. But the most economical - manufacturer's claim I could find from a current list of cars sold in Britain was of 76.4mpg in out-of-town driving for a diesel engined Audi A4.

So how does a band of schoolchildren go about creating a car that does 4,000mpg? The EB stands for Equipe Bigenor, a ten-strong team who work in farm buildings around the home of their chief designer, Oliver Way, 17, near Petworth in Sussex. EB2 has been modified since its victory last year and has already achieved more than 4,000mpg in testing at the Goodwood racing circuit near by, where the Earl of March, a motorsport fanatic, has encouraged his young neighbours. It is based on a spaceframe chassis, has tiller steering, a carbon-fibre body and uses a highly modified 50cc Honda moped engine, the favourite power unit of many amateur contestants.

But the team's latest development, EB5, is the most astonishing machine. It relies on a 30cc power unit they have built themselves, using machine tools that Oliver's father, Edward Way bought to maintain his own vintage racing cars.

This twin-spark, double overhead camshaft unit was machined from two solid blocks of aluminium and fitted with a modified Suzuki piston. The biggest problem was fitting the cast-iron liner to the cylinder. "In the end we put the liner in the freezer and the *block in the cooker. They fitted* easily then," explains Oliver.

"I drew the original plans on paper, but to design the body we drew it out on the ground because it all depends on the size of the driver. We've extended EB3 and now call it EB3A to fit a larger driver."

Jeremy Cooper, 15, the chief engineer for this car, won the junior technical award last year. He eagerly explains that the three-wheel layout shared by all the cars not only reduces friction but also avoids the need for a weighty and complex differential. They are all chain-driven.

The efforts of this team, whose youngest member, brother Jeremy Way, is 12, have attracted generous sponsorship. The bodyshell is made from a carbon-fibre composite which costs £800 a sheet. Adrian Reynard, whose racing company builds Indy-car chassis, gave them two *sheets, Michelin gave them* the tyres, and the Environment Agency a £1,000 grant.

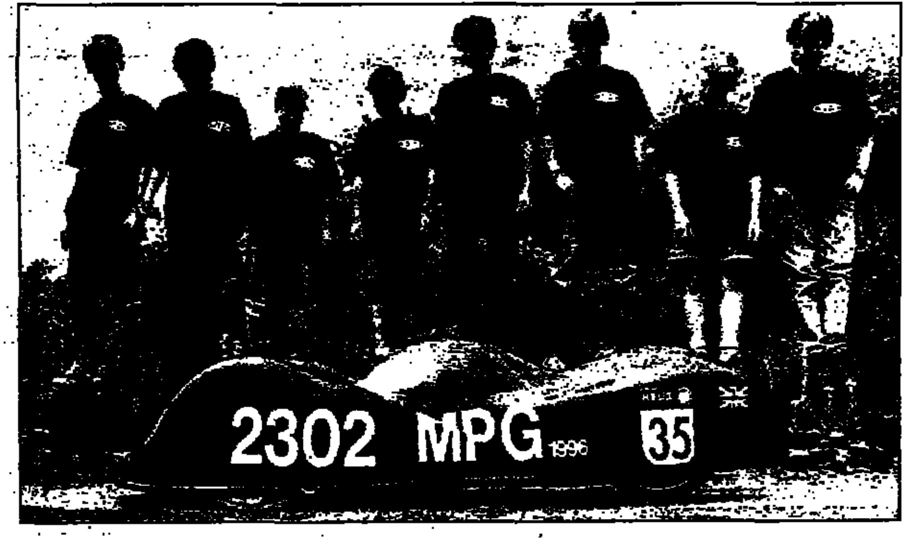
But does the technology of vehicles like this percolate down to the cars we drive? Dr Graham Paul, of King's College London, has entered a car that has achieved 8,000mpg in testing. He is intent on breaking the British record of 7,591mpg set by the French *Lycée La Joliverie* team in 1992. "It's a bit like Formula One. You can sometimes point to direct spin-offs like disc brakes or active suspension. But more often by going to extremes, by doing without all the compromises that road cars have to make, you can work *backwards to achieve* technology that can be applied."

He's been competing since 1979 and his latest car is based on carbon fibre and polystyrene construction and has a 28cc engine, developed through sponsorship with Cosworth Engineering. He thinks the engine is too big for the job, and has experimented with units as small as 4.3cc and once achieved 4,000mpg from a 7cc engine. But in tiny engines the friction caused by pistons and valves rapidly reduces efficiency.

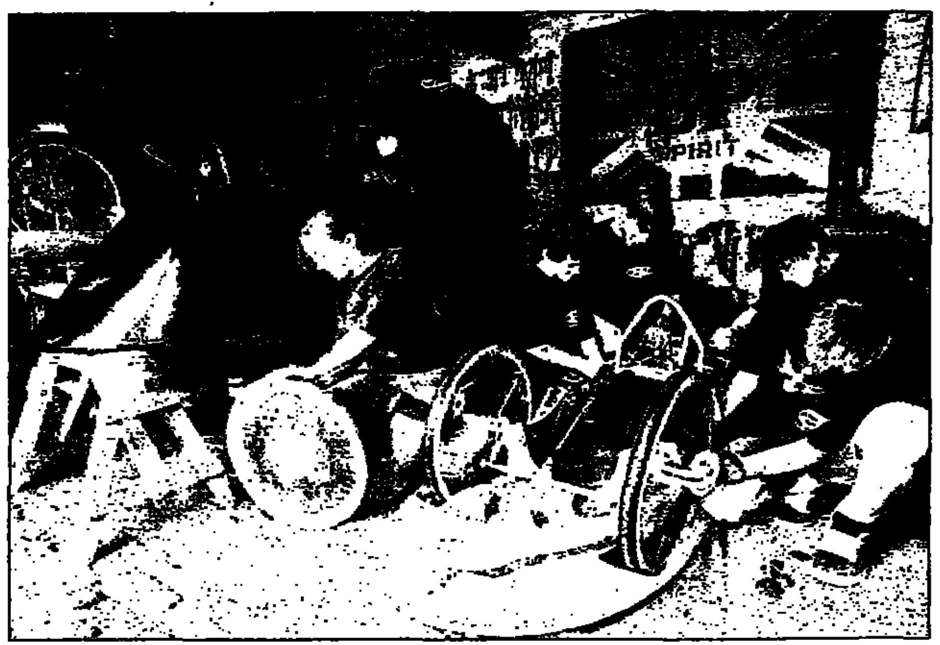
Team 1200, who established their world record in a Finnish marathon last year, will also be using a carbon fibre car, which weighs just 35kg, much lighter than the driver. It will be powered by a 70cc water-cooled engine.

Like all the teams they will use a "coast and burn" strategy, accelerating to about *25mph and then shutting off* power to cover the ten-mile course at the stipulated minimum average speed of 15mph.

The Shell Mileage Marathon takes place at Silverstone on July 18. There are 115 entries.



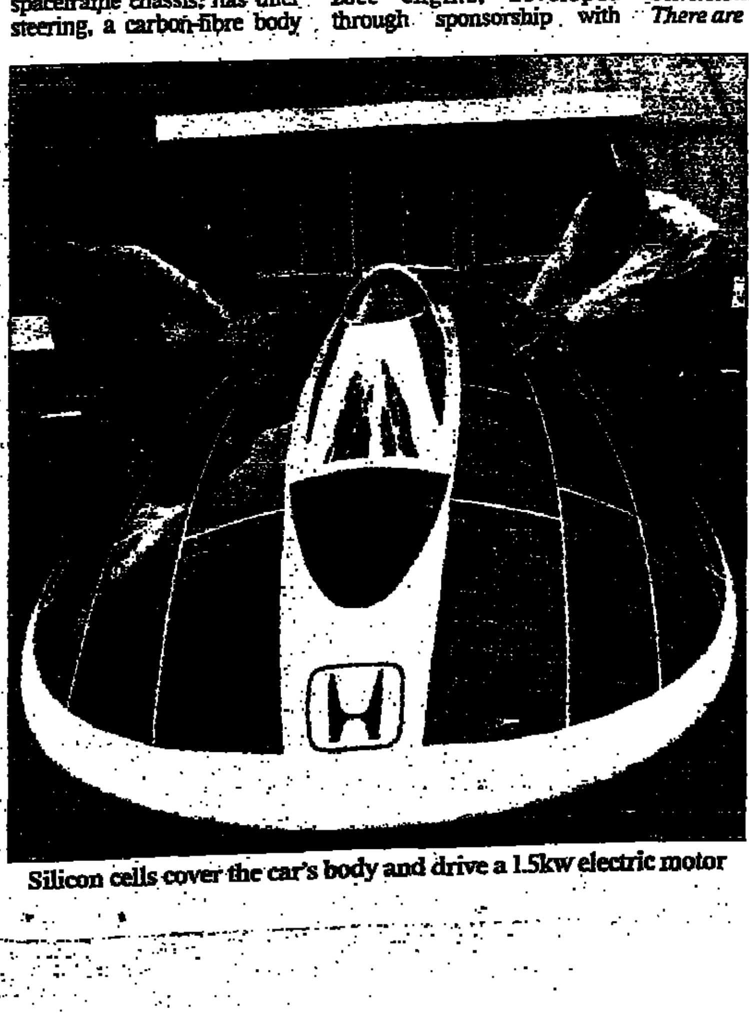
The EB5's body shell, above, is moved into position. The EB2 last year won the junior section of the Shell Mileage Marathon, averaging 2,302mpg. Its successor, with a home-made engine, is expected to double that figure



The team designed their spaceframe vehicle chassis on the floor, around the driver

Oddest drive under the sun

A quick spin in Honda's solar record-breaker



Silicon cells cover the car's body and drive a 1.5kw electric motor

Forget the mileage marathon and that old-fashioned business of pouring fuel in a tank, *writes Alan Copps.* Once it has started, this car, rapidly becoming familiar from Honda's advertising, consumes nothing at all.

The Dream Solar car holds the record for the 2,000-mile challenge for sun-powered machines, travelling from Darwin to Adelaide in Australia in 33.32 hours. It arrived in Britain last month to give a demonstration run at the Goodwood Festival of Speed.

Powered by the silicon cells that cover its body, it is driven by a 1.5kw electric motor. Power is stored in a heavy-duty battery pack for starting off, but once the car is under way the electricity generated by the cells is enough to keep it moving.

So what is it like to drive this car of the future? A brief test run outside *The Times* office this week supplied the answer: weird. Trying to get in to the Dream is challenge enough since there is hardly any room for legs between the motorcycle-style controls and the shaped seat. The driving position is lying down and rear visibility is nil.

Once settled, the driver is in for an eerie experience. Switch on and twist the throttle and a faint whistling sound precedes a surprisingly smooth take-off. But try to steer and all kinds of strange creaking and groaning emanates from the body shell and the long tail. The streamlining is so tight that the wheels touch the carbon-fibre reinforced plastic bodywork and parts of it turn with the wheels.

The turning circle seems huge and the noises are disconcerting, but it's light enough to be picked up and humped round a corner if stuck. The brake is a simple motorcycle lever and there is a digital speedometer on the handlebars.

That's it. There is no other equipment to speak of. Even on an overcast day in Wapping there was enough power to get round the car park. But it's a nerve-racking drive, constantly wondering what you might hit with that wonderful long tail. It must also have been stiflingly hot in the enclosed cockpit on the way across Australia.

Astonishingly, the car has a maximum speed of 87mph and will cruise at 56mph, but it is not road-legal in this country.

Constructed by a volunteer team of young engineers at its research and development centre in Tochigi, Japan, Honda says the technology of the Solar Dream will help in the production of future electric vehicles.

The company already markets an electric car in California, where strict environmental rules demand the sale of ultra-low-emission vehicles. But while the Dream will be used for demonstrations over the next few months, Honda has no plans at present to market an electric car in this country.

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THISTLE HOTELS

The columnist who brought derision and contempt down upon cyclists is forced by fears over fading health and wealth to peddle a different line

Why I am taking to the saddle

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION

Peter Barnard

Now that Gordon Brown has demonstrated that the difference between a Conservative Chancellor punishing the motorist and a Labour Chancellor punishing the *motorist is the way that the* sentence is pronounced with a different accent, we shall have to get on with finding our own ways to control the car without the car controlling us.

Therefore I shall now be purchasing a bicycle.

Hang on a minute, you are thinking. Whoa there, just a sec*ond, hold your horses.* Is this not the fellow who, a few months ago, was ladling insults all over the militant cycle tendency and calling them a bunch of fascists? Can this Barnard be related to the Barnard who called cyclists selfish for blocking the streets of various cities in order to protest against the motor car's habit of blocking the streets of various cities?

The very same: guilty as charged. In mitigation, however, I *must* point out that I have no objection to the bike in principle. Cycling is not like hanging, *it is not* a matter of conscience. There is a lot to be said for cycling: at least, I hope there is, or I shall not be a cyclist for long. *My* objection to some cyclists, as opposed to cycling *per se*, can best be summarised by *an experience I had recently* on a narrow country road.

A cyclist was in front of me. I slowed down and kept my distance. There was a verge, which the cyclist could have used to let me pass, but he did not do so. So I stayed *behind him, knowing that* a junction was imminent. At the junction, the cyclist stopped on the crown of the road so that I could not overtake.

The cyclist looked over his shoulder, presumably to ascertain the level of my blood pressure. He then pedalled across the junction, still in the middle of the road, and *it was only at the next junction,* nearly a mile further on, that I managed to pass him. As I did so, he honoured me with a V-sign. A Churchill biographer on a cycling tour of the Cotswolds? Very likely.

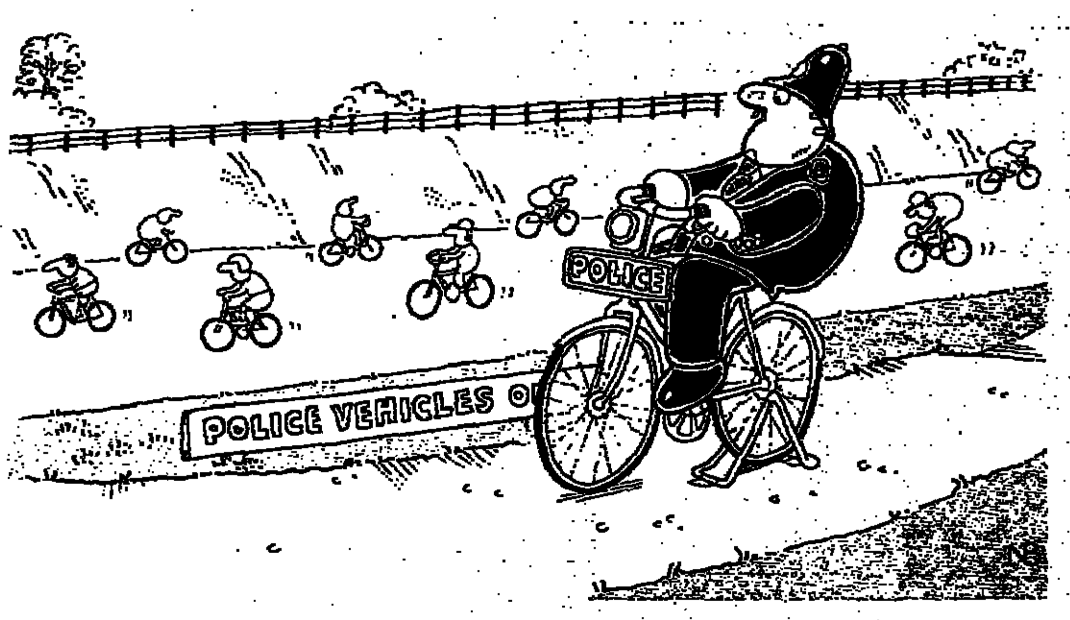
Of course idiots like that are no more typical of cyclists than an idiot who would have driven the cyclist off the road to get past him *would be typical of car drivers.* I dare say there are plenty of good things to be said for cycles and cyclists and I intend to find out what they are.

I cannot claim that I am entirely motivated by a desire to see if the bicycle really can work as an alternative, or at least a supplement, to a car. Having given up *smoking I need some way to fight* off the flab and an alternative use for my hands, so why not a bicycle, albeit one that will hopefully have enough gears to make pedalling easy on the hamstrings? Just as long as it does not have an ashtray.

So yes, the bike as a recreational vehicle clearly has merits, but, whatever the anti-car lobby may say, *the car remains the most* triumphant invention of the transport industry so far. Any government that thinks we are voluntarily going to give up the privacy, convenience, comfort and freedom offered by the car in exchange for pedalling a bike or hanging about waiting for buses must be mad.

Anti-car fascists want me to give up the car and use public transport, but round my way there is none. *There are no buses.* Well, there is a bus, but I am not prepared to get into short trousers *and start* carrying a satchel in order to be allowed on it. Therefore my choice is between a bicyle and a horse. I tried a horse, but had great difficulty tying it to the back of the car so that I could take it on holiday.

So a bike it is. When I last owned a bike, it had three gears. According to a brochure before me, *bicycles can now* be bought that have more than 20 (and I see no sign of one with automatic transmission). Some very posh bikes also have front and rear suspension and springs under the saddle. These cost, er, £1,800. Blimey. I could buy a halfway decent car for that, so I shall be looking at the lower end of the market. *Something unfashionable will do nicely.*



Hugh Hunston looks forward to a day when rescuers save you before trouble happens

High-tech revolution inspires RAC rally

He has guided vast cargo freighters across the world's oceans, command*ed the 4th Battalion of Royal* Green Jackets in Northern Ireland, and helped put Jaguar back on the road to international commercial and motor-racing success.

Not one to shirk challenges, Neil Johnson, the Royal Automobile Club's chief executive and general secretary, is in the *advanced stages of rejuvenating* a British motoring institution. With less emphasis on "Royal" and a tilt away from clubbishness, Johnson, a product of Sandhurst, is quick-marching the organisation towards a high-technology, 21st-century role as a "mobility provider".

Gleaming new purpose-built Ford *Transit* and Mercedes Vito patrol units are to be introduced, crammed full of state-of-the-art gizmos that interrogate and diagnose, *rather* than prod and fettle under bonnets.

The move is accompanied by a dreamy, almost surreal, feel-good advertising wave, orchestrated by strategy director Jan Smith, with the soothing mantra: "We will not let our members go *into the future* empty-handed."

Smith's earlier, even more tangential, approach to selling Mazdas in Britain was not judged a roaring success within the industry, but Johnson *insists this campaign is on* target.

Cerebral, rather than mechanical in approach, it is central to the new philosophy of embracing a world where the client lives, works and *plays in a world also* containing buses, trains and bikes.

Johnson reasons: "Our core *is still a motoring organisation* and we still represent 'the motorist'. But we have to recognise the they are general members of the community, involved and concerned about the transport debate."

Johnson argues that the private car must fit into the general picture, or risk accelerating into its own obsolescence.

"I have to be pretty robust about who this man or woman the motorist is. There are a couple of hundred Mr and Ms Toads who think the freedom *of the road is only theirs to* enjoy. Our members are pedestrians, bike riders, bus passengers, and train users. Our responsibility to them is not just on motoring but the wider remit of mobility."

Receptive to a rash of green transport initiatives, Johnson is nonetheless pragmatic, and *will fight the corner of* carborne transport, in this wider context. Not that he had an easy time trying to persuade the last Tory government that wholesale neglect of road repair programmes was a false economy. "Dealing with the last regime was like banging your head against a reinforced concrete wall. We kept telling *them* if you let your roof fall into disrepair you will ultimately need a new roof rather than forking out to replace a few *slates. I trust* the new team will see the benefits of the argument.

'Our members are bike riders, and bus and train users'

Adapting, or in Johnson's words, anticipating, is the key to the re-invented RAC. It is a policy based on two premises. The first is the long-term or even lifetime relationship, which he says is good business.

Retaining members pushes up renewal rates, and year-on-year loyalty in turn makes commercial sense. Recruiting, or re-recruiting is far more *costly than keeping the* customer satisfied.

Johnson also sees a parallel with the sales strategies of carmakers, both in Britain and Europe, where market saturation means the bulk of *business involves* replacement, rather than first-time buying.

*Within that context, John*son believes: "Three-year warranties have an inevitable ring about them. But I wonder if it overcomes, or influences the decision to buy someone else's car." So speaks the man, who in 1975 launched BL's pioneering Supercover warranty-cum-recovery initiative. It was with the AA, because his present employer rejected the concept.

RAC won't represent the "Mr and Mrs Toads", but wants to put car use in context with transport users such as cyclists

The other plank in the RAC's platform involves technology, technology – *and* technology and an ever wider mobility remit.

Johnson sees the day dawning, arguably by the middle of the next decade, when the membership card, and related on-board electronic technology allow RAC members to "travel wherever and whenever they want to go".

The technology will be based on the increasingly commonplace *in-car* route-finding and congestion-avoidance systems. On top of this will be a welter of resources, including constant technical monitoring *of the car's* vital functions, access to hotel bookings, rail timetables, car park locations, *restaurant* reservations, concert tickets and even emergency dental appointments.

Three elements – a mobile phone, a global-positioning satellite (GPS) system and intelligent navigation aids – have to be in place to turn the idea into reality.

RAC vehicles are currently evaluating a GPS system and Johnson reckons that fitting a Ford Mondeo with the required equipment would cost around £2,000. But as the manufacturers and linked providers of various servies join in, and the volume of users *rises,* costs will *tumble.* The RAC predicts that it will all be affordable by the end of the decade.

Johnson emphasises: "There will not be one big bang where it all comes together. We are already moving very fast and are now deep in discussions with carmakers and service providers to start pulling together some of those elements."

*Not only are the manufac*turers competing to put smart technology on board, but the RAC plans to supply carmakers and members with systems to put into existing cars.

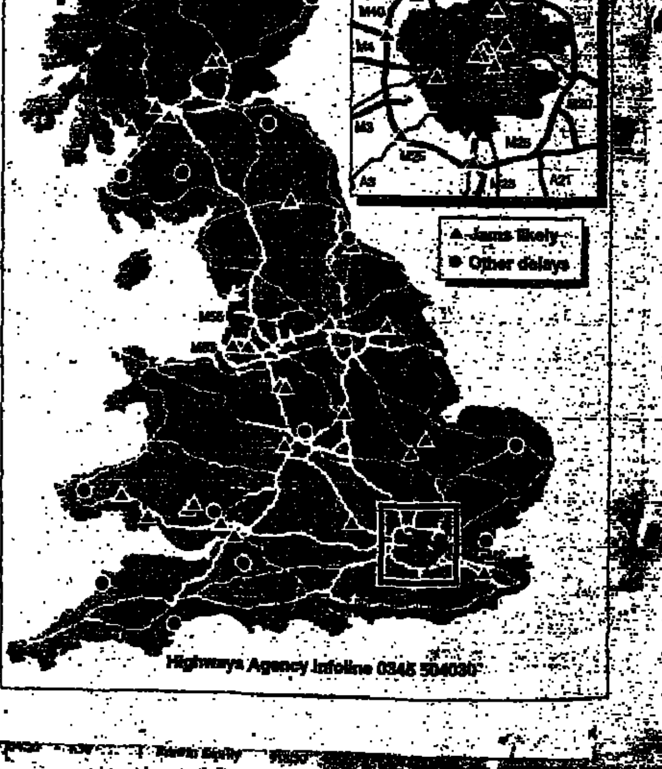
"There is no reason why we should not interrogate the car's technical diagnostic system from our control centre and diagnose a fault down the line," he says. "A driver could receive a call telling him or *her, 'Your car is about to break* down. Turn right in half a mile into the hotel car park and our patrol will sort it out while you have a cup of coffee.' This is probable, – not just possible. If the car could not be repaired immediately then we would book them a room or make onward travel arrangements."

As Johnson and his staff stitch together technological and commercial alliances to put the system in place, he denies that removing the crown from the RAC livery means discarding royal connections.

"We remain uniquely proud of our royal association. The Queen is our patron and Prince Michael of Kent our president. We made the *change* because people are rightly uneasy about the crown's use for commercial *purposes. The changes* came after full consultation with the Palace. The crown is retained for the institution of the RAC and our motorsport division.

At least the chaps in blazers will get the chance to retain their crowning glory at the RAC-backed British Grand Prix at Silverstone this month. *And in all probability* the RAC's high-tech locate-and-rescue units will aid some of the 90,000 *racegoers* paying homage to the internal combustion engine that weekend.

● LONDON
A401 *Shaftesbury Avenue.* Down to one lane westbound at St Giles Street. Delays on High Holborn and Bloomsbury Street.
A11 Leytonstone. Major roadworks with lane closures at A12 roundabout.
A4 Pall Mall. Roadworks on westbound carriageway at King Street and Waterloo *Place.*
A4 Picadilly. Eastbound roadworks on Old Bond Street and Westbound at Brick Street, affecting eastbound traffic on to Hyde Park Corner and northbound on St James's Street.
A306 Hammersmith Bridge. Closed both ways to general traffic for structural *works.*
A406 Upper Edmonton. Major roadworks on Angel Road (North Circular) over *Lea Valley viaduct.*
● SOUTH-EAST
M40 Buckinghamshire. Long-term roadworks with contraflow between junctions 1a (M25) and 3 (Wycombe East).
A127 Southend. Roadworks on Victoria Avenue at junction with Caernarvon Road.
A41 Watford. Lane closures eastbound on North Western Avenue from Hunton Bridge roundabout to Leavesden Green interchange.
M20 junction 4, West *Malling, Kent. Long-term works* for erection of traffic signals on the slip roads and roundabout. Various lane closures.
M40 Oxfordshire. Resurfacing work between Watlington and Oxford. Drivers heading to junction 8 of the M40 from Oxford are advised to use A40 and A418.
M25 junctions 8-10, *Surrey.* Restrictions and lane closures both ways between Reigate and A3.
● SOUTH-WEST
M5 junctions 18-19, Bristol. Contraflow across Avonmouth Bridge with 50mph limit.
A39 near Bush, north of Bude. Resurfacing with temporary lights..
A379 Teignmouth. One lane closed both ways for roadworks.
A37 Shepton Mallet. *Roadworks as junction with* A361. Delays on *all* approaches.
MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA
A1 Alconbury, Cambridgeshire. Construction work with contraflow and lane closures.
A1 Peterborough. Works at Haddon interchange with repairs to the A1M.
A1074 Norwich. Narrow lanes eastbound on Dereham Road.
A52 Beeston. Major roadworks on Derby Road.
Delays between Sherwin *Arms and Priory roundabouts.*
A38 near Weeford. Roadworks northbound between Canwell and Moneymore. Contraflow in operation.
A50 Kidsgrove. Liverpool road closed due to roadworks between The Avenue and Gloucester Road.
A50 Stoke on Trent. Major *construction work at Meir.*
A41 Northampton. Temporary lights on Bilston Road, near Cooper Street.
● NORTH
A689 between A19 and A1185, north of Middlesbrough at Wolviston, *Durham,* reduced to one lane.
M62 East Riding. Reduced to one lane between Howden *and North Cave with* 50mph limit.
A580 Haydock. One lane closed eastbound on East *Lancs* Road near Haydock Industrial Estate.
A567 Bootle. Stanley Road closed *northbound* between Merton Road and The Strand.
A69 Northumberland. *Major roadworks with* contraflow between Acomb Turning and Hexham West.
A19 North Yorkshire. Major roadworks with two lanes each way between Thornaby-on-Tees and Billingham. Only one lane on some slip roads. 50mph limit.
M1 West Yorkshire. Major roadworks continue around Leeds *junction* with lane closures and speed restrictions. Delays on M1, M621 and Dewsbury Road.
A1058 *Tyne* and Wear. Cradlewell bypass down to one lane each way. Diversions in operation.
● SCOTLAND
Aberdeen. Anderson Drive reduced to one lane between *Seafield Road roundabout* and Queens Road.
A78 North Ayrshire. Roadworks mean restrictions both ways on Eglinton Road in Ardrossan.
M8 Glasgow. Down to three narrow lanes both ways at junction 25, the Clyde Tunnel.
A726 South Lanarkshire. *Temporary lights on* East Kilbride to Strathaven Road.
● WALES
A484 Francis Well, Tenerdy, Carmarthenshire. Major roadworks.
A4059 Aberdare closed due to roadworks between Town Bridge and Cwmbach Road.
A449 Monmouthshire. Roadworks between Usk Junction and M4 junction 24 Newport. Expect long *delays at times.*
A483 Swansea. Contraflow and roadworks at the Fabian Way docks between the *Vale of Neath Road and* Elba Crescent.



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AUTOFAX by David Long and Les Evans

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CELEBRATING ITS CENTENARY THIS YEAR, THE RAC EACH WEEK ATTENDS MORE THAN 50,000 BREAKDOWNS.

[هكذا من الأصل]

Morag Preston joins the lucky *Times* competitors on a tough advanced course to improve their road skills

The cage, a tight cone box, proved a hard test of our drivers' manoeuvring skills . . .

Women winners drive — and finally survive

Sexist jokes went out of the window as readers impressed instructors with their motoring skills

Faced with a fleet of female drivers, instructors on the Drive & Survive course were forced to abandon their women-driver jokes.

As the winners of a competition run by *The Times*, and sponsored by Privilege Insurance, showed-off their motoring skills, the instructors on the advanced driving course were forced to admit. "Yes, women are better drivers."

Fired up by some sobering statistics (ten people are killed daily on roads in the UK), we set out to improve our driving skills and minimise risk at the same time.

Split into groups to spice up the competition, I set off with the Black Team for a spot of emergency-reaction training. Our instructor, Rick Shortle, advised: "Look where you want to go and your arms will follow — look for your option out.

"It takes two and a half times as long to think about stopping the car than it takes to do it. If you have ABS, you can brake extremely hard and still steer." Encouraged to drive as fast as they could, then stop or swerve according to instructions, there were a few dead cones at the end of the session.

"That was a real adrenalin rush," exclaimed Lisa Goodfellow, a contracts administrator from Birmingham, whose heart-rate had been given a kick-start after she realised that the car following her into the complex belonged to a Drive & Survive instructor.

Next up was the off-road driving. Eking our way between the maze of trees, we were warned about the pine cones or "rollers" as they are affectionately known.

Teetering on the edge of a vast waterbath, instructor Tony Shefford hollered: "Give that water some respect. You don't know what's under there. The vehicle will rock and roll you, but the rule is that if we get stuck, you get out and push while the driver moves over."

Halfway up a hill, we were instructed to stall the Diahatsu. Then we were told: "Get into reverse, take your feet off the brake and the clutch, straighten the wheel, fire the engine and then roll backwards."

It all went horribly wrong for Goodfellow — in spite of her T-shirt emblazoned with the message, "It's all muscle" — as the 4x4 made an ungainly backwards lunge.

As Shefford instructed her on how to rectify the situation, she snapped back: "You sounded just like my driving instructor then, but your reactions were much better."

After a fortifying lunch and a chance to share experiences so far, the Black Team was sent out on the road for driver-awareness training. Concentration, observation, and anticipation were the buzzwords on this section.

First in the driving seat was Nicola Banks, a secretary from Burton on Trent, who had been up until the early hours of that morning, celebrating her 29th birthday. Having failed her driving test at the age of 17, she succeeded three years later.

Now she is hooked. Driving out of the Crowthorne complex, instructor John Venning hardly stopped to draw breath: "Look more threatening. Drive towards the middle of the road. Cross the line if you want — that way they'll see you coming. As you're going round a corner, wait until the kerbs in front of you don't look as if they don't touch anymore, then go for it. Yes, I felt it that time."

Venning was clearly following his own advice: "If you're finding it hard to concentrate after a bad day, then give a running commentary. That way you'll see and hear the signs . . . keep two hands on the wheel while braking — feel the road."

Reverse parking came next, then the cage — a tight box marked out by cones. The object was simple — drive the car in, turn it around, then drive it out again in the shortest time.

"That was impossible — my arms are aching," sighed Charlotte Sibley, who claimed to have better luck in her Mercedes automatic. Goodfellow, however, turned out be a whizz at this, putting the instructors to shame.

The fun-looking Fiesta decorated with colourful question marks was another test of concentration and logic — turn the steering wheel to the left and the car moved right.

The skid car won the seal of approval for the most fun to be had on four wheels, as the competition winners spun round fast enough to put Torvill and Dean to shame. Some of the drivers had to be forcibly removed.

Exhausted at the end of the day Banks hailed her father to take her home. "There's no way I'm driving 140 miles home after that," she scoffed.

ADVANCED DRIVING

- ONCE you decide that you want to make your motoring safer by improving your driving skills, there are a number of routes that you can take. The first stop is the Institute of Advanced Motorists (0181-994 4403).
- There are 206 groups running courses around the country. The number of members has reached 107,000. Initially, you join as an associated member for a year. Once you pass the Advanced Driving Test, you graduate to become a member.
- Training sessions are taken in your own car on the road with an observer. Because observers are unpaid volunteers, booking a slot depends on their availability. Observers will first assess your driving ability, then work on eradicating any undesirable habits. Membership fees vary from group to group. In a bid to attract younger members, the Institute is offering a £10 reduction in membership fees for drivers under 25.
- Drivers need to have held a car licence for three months before they are eligible to join.
- The AA (0800 607080) also offers advanced driving tuition. Additional lessons for motorway driving are particularly popular. Costs vary from £13.50 to £17.50 for an hour's tuition.
- Privilege Insurance quoteline number: (0990 998800)

. . . a task made tougher for Nicola Banks by her birthday party the previous night

Class toppers: Jaci and Ophelia

■ JACI GILROY, 31, a lecturer in holistic therapy from Bristol, won the reverse-steering section of the course, and shone both in the cage and on the off-road parts. She cut her own path in the 4x4 rather than follow the well-worn tracks. "I love driving, and am devoted to my Fiat Panda 4x4. The course made me appreciate how impressive ABS is. It was good to test how quickly you can stop."

Ophelia Weir, 33, a financial adviser from London, was the winner of the driver awareness training section, and says that her experiences behind the wheel of her Audi estate with two youngsters in the back must have paid off. "You have to concentrate more when you have kids in the back, which is harder when they're yelling. But I have always loved driving. The course was an incredible experience — seemingly driving like a lunatic, while learning to be safer. It should be compulsory for all drivers once they've got experience."

Winners: Ophelia Weir, left, and Jaci Gilroy

Immaculate MGB engine bay holds 1800cc motor — powerful in its day, but not now

Spotless: the time-warp sportsters

Vaughan Freeman on a collector's dream: the last two unused 1970s MGBs

Two of the very last MGB sportscars to be built at British Leyland's Abingdon plant have come to light in as-new condition, with each car having done only 50 miles.

The time-warp find is the stuff collectors drool over, especially when the cars concerned are MGBs, the last of which rolled off the production lines the best part of two decades ago.

The cars were bought as production of the MGB ended, and were whisked straight to a heated storage garage where they have lain ever since, pampered, polished, and serviced, their engines started and regularly turned over.

The red MGB GT and its white time-warp partner, a Roadster convertible, have been put up for sale by the Leicester Brooklands Classic Car firm.

The two cars were not even registered when they were bought, but instead transported to the garage where their anonymous owner would cosset them for the best part of two decades by way of making an automotive investment.

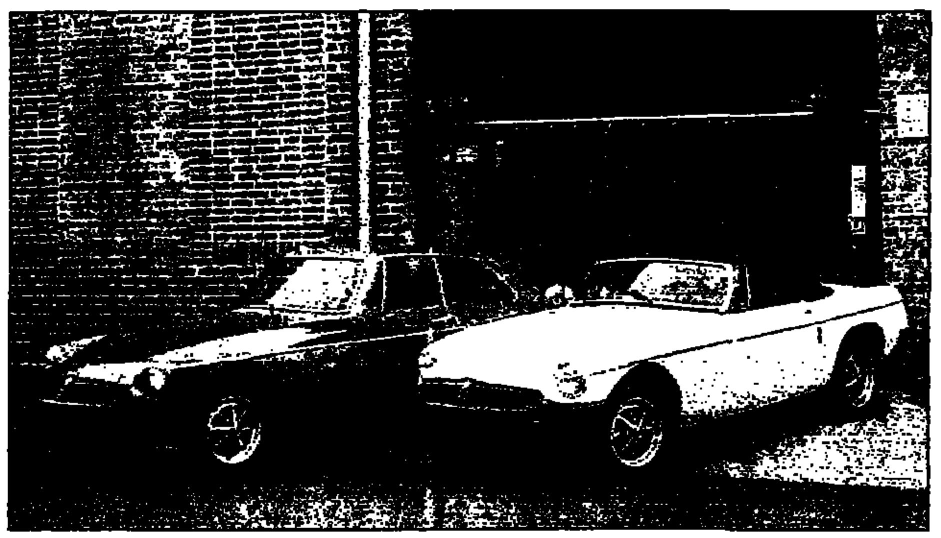
The cars each cost just under £4,000 to buy brand new, and now they are up for sale, with prices in the £10,000 to £18,000 range. Mark Geary, a partner in Brooklands, says: "These two cars were among the 25 of the very last standard MGBs off the production line.

"They were bought in 1981, and the gentleman who bought them stored them away in a heated garage, where they were put up on blocks and looked after for the following 17 years, although they have never been used.

"The cars are completely standard with 1800cc engines with overdrive. The Roadster is a far more desirable car than the GT even though the GT is clearly a better car for everyday use. The fact is people want Roadsters.

"We have had a lot of interest even from as far afield as Japan. We are not in a rush however to sell them really. The cars were purposely put by as an investment which hasn't quite come off. I expect had the money been invested elsewhere it might have brought a better return.

"If you had walked into a BL showroom in 1981 and found yourself looking at two MGBs, then that is what these cars look like now. They are perfect, absolutely spotless. Looking at them is like going back in time."


Red MGB GT is the better car, though the white Roadster will fetch a higher price

The MGB might have been the rakish performance car of its day, but with a top speed of around 100mph, and a 0-60mph time of 12 or so seconds, it would be hard pushed to keep up with a modern Fiesta.

Even so, the MGB's popularity is enduring and likely to stay that way says, Geary. "The MGB stays popular because a lot of them were built, which kept the price down initially, compared to say an Austin Healey or a TR6. Even today it means they are an affordable classic."

Its affordability and the numbers in which it was produced made the MGB Britain's most successful ever sportscar, and more than half a million were built. The four-cylinder engine put out 95bhp, giving performance which, when the car was first launched in the early 1960s, was impressive. It had the added touch of wind-up windows, the first MG to have such a luxury.

After the MGB's demise the MG badge was stuck, to purists' dismay, on Montegos and Maestros, though a genuine new MG, the MGF is now sold by Rover.

History disputes whether one of the tuned Morris cars sold by Morris Garages manager Cecil Kimber in the early 1920s was the first MG, or whether that honour rests with the Morris Cowley-based "Old Number One" of 1925.

There is no dispute though that Mr Kimber of Morris Garages (hence the initials) founded one of the most prolific of sports car companies, whose little machines inspired public loyalty and set numerous motorsport records.

As to the anonymous keeper of the two cars, Geary says only: "Part of the agreement we undertook when we bought the cars was not to tell anybody who originally bought them and has been storing them for all this time. I can say he is a mega-millionaire who employs around 7,000 people worldwide, and is in the process of disposing of his collection of 30 or 40 cars."

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STAFFORDSHIRE - Platts of Longton Lightwood Rd Longton *Stoke on Trent, Staffs, ST3 4JG* Tel: Leo Rowe on 01782 599400

ASTON MARTIN

KENT - Lancaster Sevenoaks Ltd 92 London Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1BA. David Bradshaw 01732 456300

NORWICH - Stratton Motor Company (Norfolk) Ltd Ipswich Rd Long Stratton. Charlie Skelton Tel: 01508 530491

ASTON MARTIN

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KENT - WHITEHOUSE HONDA 20 Broadway, Bexley Heath, Kent. DA6 7LN. Tel: 0181 303 6363 Fax: 0181 301 5753

Jeep

DORSET - Meridian Majestic Garage Ltd Wallisdown, Bournemouth, BH11 8QS. Contact Kevin Burt 01202 525111

JAGUAR

CAMBRIDGESHIRE - Marshall Peterborough Tyrrell Park, Boongate PE1 5PT Alan Wensak 01733 313335

KENT - Lancaster Sevenoaks Ltd 92 London Rd. emailjaguar@ sevenoaks.lancasterplc.com 01732 456300

LONDON - *Stratstone of Mayfair* 40 Berkeley Street, London, W1X 6EN Stewart Banks 0171 629 4404, Sun 0468 505672

LONDON - WOODFORD JAGUAR 50 - 56 High Road, Woodford, London, E18 1AS. Steve Russell *0181 989 8844*

WEST MIDLANDS - COLLIERS at 166 -168 Birmingham Rd, Sutton Coalfield, B72 1HX Keith Gallaghan 0121 355 6151

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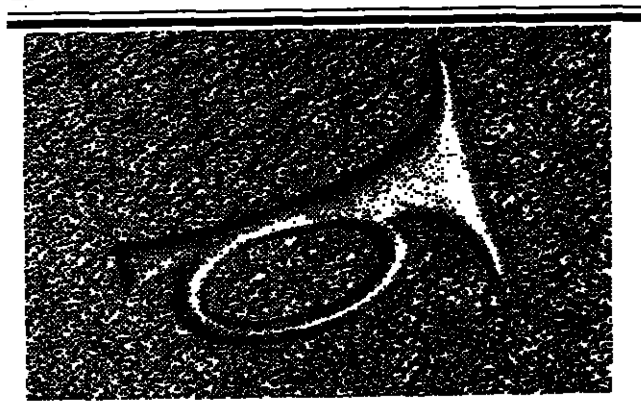

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£2 million tag for bike that killed the Arabian legend

Vaughan Freeman on the macabre sale of Lawrence's beloved old Brough SS100 motorcycle

A 60-year-old motorcycle which sold for just £1 three decades ago is now up for sale with a price tag of £2 million and probaby the most romantic possible history attached to it.

For when T. E. Lawrence, military genius, author, and speed fiend, was fatally injured in 1935, the motorbike he was riding was his beloved Brough Superior SS100, the seventh he had owned, an awesome 998cc machine capable of a then undreamt-of 100mph.

Now the motorbike, registration number GW 2275, which still has traces of accident damage on the front mudguard from Lawrence's fatal smash, is for sale. Its arrival on the market has sent ripples through the worlds not only of motorcycle enthusiasts, but also of collectors of Lawrence memorabilia.

The story behind the machine is extraordinary. Legend has it that Lawrence was riding the motorcycle near his Clouds Hill home, at Bovington in Dorset, when he braked hard to avoid two boys out cycling. He lost control and died, aged 47, six days later.

Some historians, however, are convinced that Lawrence may have been assassinated and was knocked off the machine by a black car said to have been tailing him at the time of the accident.

After the accident, the bike was sold back to the Brough Nottingham factory by Lawrence's brother and repaired. In 1963 it was bought by Portsmouth enthusiast Les Perrin, who paid just £1 for the tatty machine, which had been fixed to a sidecar.

Perrin spent a princely £19 restoring the V-twin bike, with a hand gearshift, so that he could get it to the Brough Superior summer club rally. *Only when he finally recieved the original log-book back from the vehicle licencing of*fice, and saw the machine had been registered by T. E. Shaw — the name Lawrence assumed after joining the RAF in 1922 — did he realise this had been Lawrence's bike.

A photograph showing the machine being taken away from the scene of the accident clearly showed its registration number, GW 2275, to confirm that not only was it one of Lawrence's bikes, but the one that he was killed on.

Perrin later sold the bike to its present owner, Hampshire collector John Weekly, in a deal which included around £5,000 as well as a Vincent Rapide motorcycle.

Now Weekly, who has owned the bike ever since, has put the machine on the market through his intermediary Jon Truss, who says: "Since the David Lean film, the whole world has been made aware of Lawrence of Arabia. It is a slice of British history. It is probably the most famous motorcycle in the world, and a major portion of the Lawrence legend."

Truss concedes that it is the machine's link with Lawrence, and its gruesome part in Lawrence's end, that makes it worth so much: "It is the morbid side of things that attracts interest, as well as the fact that the bike is rideable and unique.

"The bike was not too badly damaged in the accident, although the exhaust and petrol tank were repaired. However, the gearbox, chassis and engine numbers all tally and its Lawrence ownership is verified. We even have all the relevant documents including the 1935 tax disc from the bike.

"It seems like a lot of money, but imagine if James Dean had been riding it when he died. There would without doubt be plenty of Americans ready to pay a similar sum."

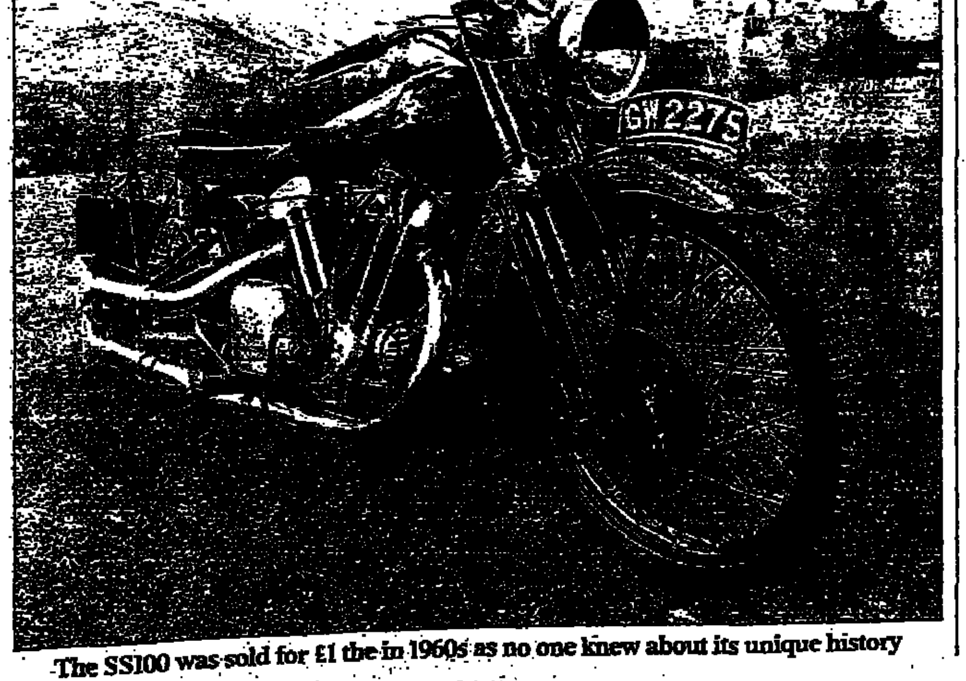
Lawrence earned his title following his successes in Britain's World War One Arabian Desert campaign against Germany's Turkish allies. Michael Chapman, who looks after Clouds Hill, Lawrence's home, which is now owned by the National Trust, says: "Lawrence loved speed, whether it was a Rolls-Royce armoured car or whatever, he would ride everything flat out.

"He had a number of Brough Superiors, which in their day were the Rolls-Royce of motorcycles, and were pretty expensive machines. He always called his Broughs George, and he died on George the Seventh. George the Eighth was being built for him but he never took delivery."

Nobody disputes the fact that the machine was Lawrence's and the one on which he died, but controversy surrounds the asking price. Dennis Frost of *Classic Motor Cycle* magazine, says: "Given the motorbike's links with Lawrence, it is probably worth around £200,000, against around £50,000 for a good *Brough Superior SS100*. Lawrence's ownership adds a considerable premium.

"The idea, though, that it might make up to £2 million at auction is quite preposterous. It seems highly unlikely it would fetch anything like that kind of money."

Only when [illegible] Brough [illegible] been [illegible] Lawrence used [illegible]



The SS100 was sold for £1 the in 1960s as no one knew about its unique history

Squint, and the two Jaguars' lines show a faint family likeness. The rides they offer are decades apart, though both provide their own thrills

New cat's learnt all the prize old Jaguar tricks

Alan Copps compares the latest XK8 with one of the greatest, the XK 150 we are giving away

To drive Jaguar's XK8 must be one of the most relaxing experiences in modern motoring. It has been rightly acclaimed as the model that dared to follow the E-Type's classic act and reclaim Jaguar's reputation for making great sporting cars.

But how does its character compare with the famous models that went before? This week, *Times* readers have a chance to win an example of one its most illustrious forebears, the XK 150 (see below), the model that immediately preceded the E-Type.

To get an impression of how the two cars compare I took a test drive in an XK8 convertible to meet Robin Seymour, who has been looking after the XK 150 that dates from 1959.

There are not many cars that can make a late rush-hour exit from East London and a half circuit of the M25 a pleasure, but the XK8 can. It's lines are truly head-turning, *more than once people in* stationary traffic wound down windows to ask questions about it. If you want one word to sum up the car it would be "civilised". It's very much a grand tourer rather than a sports car, comfort was obviously one of the designer's priorities.

The hood of the convertible is so solid that once in place it might just as well be a roof. Even at 70mph there's no hint of wind noise. The cabin is luxurious, typical Jaguar wood and leather, a steering column that automatically moves up when the door is opened, to give ample room for entry and exit and seats that can be adjusted in every direction. The only snag is that a tall driver needs to keep the height-adjustment low to ensure sufficient headroom.

Designed by a team that paid special attention to the needs of women drivers, it's a well-insulated car, both in terms of suspension and the noise it makes. Only the tyres can be heard at any legal speed in this country and even the biggest bump, a humpbacked bridge I found right in the middle of a sharp right-*hand corner, failed to budge* the car from its line.

On first acquaintance the new XK8 runs the risk of presenting itself as a "soft" car. It is, after all, based on the platform of its predecessor the XJS, which may have been Jaguar's best-selling sports car ever, but by the end of its 21-year life was beginning to feel thoroughly soggy against some of the opposition.

But with traction control for safe acceleration and anti-lock brakes, there's scope to use the extra performance of the XK8. It also has the famous Jaguar J-gate, enabling the driver to override the automatic transmission and use it like a clutchless manual. Select the sport setting for the transmission and put the car through some testing curves and its sporting heritage rapidly becomes apparent. If in fully automatic mode, the big cat seems to stretch before it picks up speed, *driven like this it* pounces.

"A bit of a soft car," was Robin Seymour's first reaction to the XK8. Not surprising really, from a man who'd just stepped out of an XK 150. The walnut and leather was there in 1959, although the astonish-*ing high-gloss finish was not.* But even before you start inspecting the details, the difference is apparent. The exhaust of the XK8's newly developed V8 engine is hardly audible at tickover and even when performance is demanded it builds only to a purposeful but muted purr. The six-cylinders of the XK 150 emit a throaty rumble. It's a car that likes to let you know it's coming.

In looks there is the vaguest family resemblance, a glance is enough to understand why the British *show such enthusiasm* for classic cars. It's instantly established as another head-turner. But there are no seatbelts and no fancy seat adjustment either. The driving position is with legs almost straight, the steering wheel feels huge — and heavy after *the XK8's power assistance.*

The manual gearchange needs a bit of getting used to, it's very easy to select reverse instead of first. But once you're away you know it: the car demands constant attention. If the modern one irons out the road, this one gets the driver living every bump and dip, every turn and twist.

Taking great handfuls of that big steering wheel, there's no traction control to help here, it's very easy to hang the tail out round corners and great fun if you've got the *confidence and space to do it.*

What's astonishing is that with 250bhp going to the road through those handsome wire wheels, the performance of the XK 150, in its present "S" specification, doesn't fall that far short of the XK8. But by contrast with the new car it has a raw edge to everything it does. It feels faster.

In its day it was just as state-of-the-art as the XK8, exactly what you would want for a grand tour. I wouldn't want to endure driving around the M25 in it, but what a wonderful car to win.

XK 150 powerplant produces 250bhp: performance isn't far short of the new XK8

JAGUAR XK8

Engine: 4-litre V8 producing 290bhp.
Transmission: five-speed electronic automatic with manual override.
Performance: Top speed, 154mph; 0-60mph in 6.7 secs.
Economy: Urban 15.9mpg; extra-urban 31.9mpg; combined cycle 23.3mpg.
Equipment: twin airbags, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, variable power-assisted steering, electrically operated seats, mirrors and hood.
Price: £56,625 on the road.

XK 150

Engine: 3.8-litre straight-six with triple SU carburettors producing 250bhp.
Transmission: Four-speed manual.
Performance: Top speed 136mph; 0-50mph in 7.3 seconds.
Economy: Around 20mpg at best.
Equipment: One of the first cars to have disc brakes as standard, wire wheels with knock-off hub caps, and ours has a massive D-Type fuel filler and a boot badge boasting of Jaguar's five 1950s Le Mans wins.
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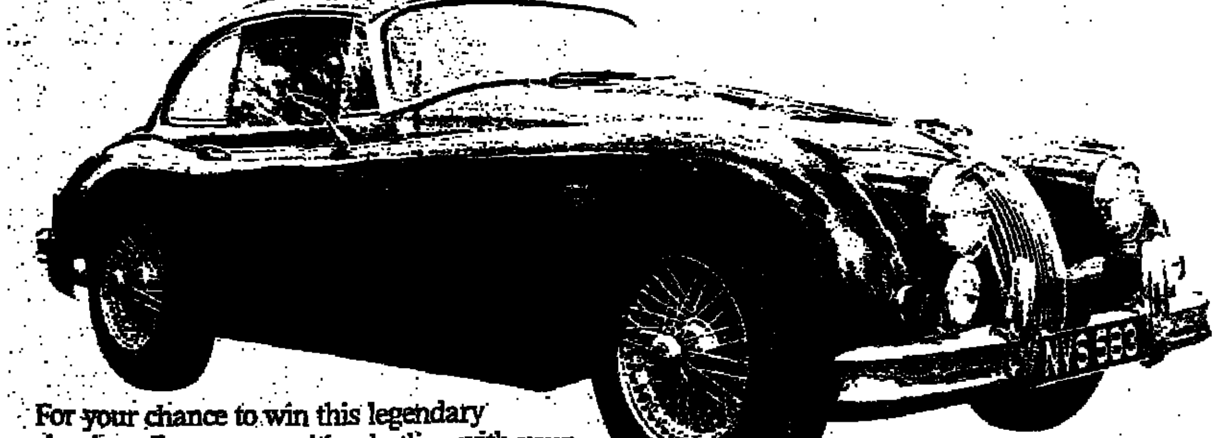

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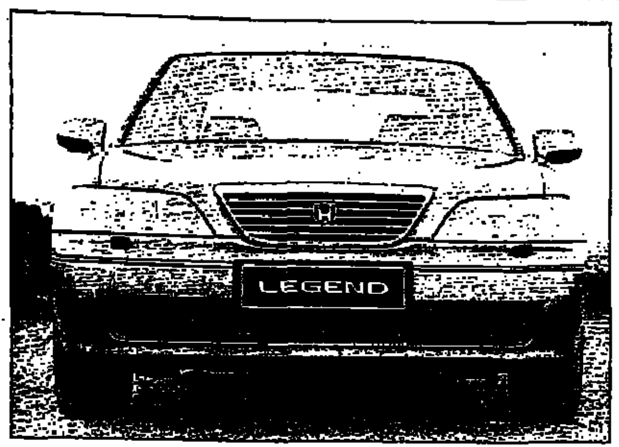

Honda's Legend; a fine car with no great reputation

Unknown Legend

■ THE HONDA Legend's low, almost invisible profile, does such a thoroughly good car a disservice, *writes Vaughan Freeman.*

The 3.2-litre V6 from 1991 is under-rated, and the newer 3.5-litre model from 1996 suffered a lack of publicity *reports CAP Black Book.*

The Legend has always had difficulties in the UK establishing itself an image, let alone any status.

The Legend is worth considering as executive transport because it very quiet, hugely comfortable, has high equipment levels and total reliability and superb build.

Best buy is an early coupé, and expect to pay £14,500 to £15,000 for a 1992 K-reg model, which is not bad for a car that cost almost twice that much when brand new.

FORECOURT

■ FORD'S Sierra Cosworth is probably the cheapest 150mph car on sale.

Best buy is the 1991 H-reg or 1992 G-reg Cosworth Sapphire, which should sell at anything up to £11,000 with low to average milage.

All Cosworths should though come with a public health and finance warning. Make sure any Cosworth you are considering comes with a full service history, and scrutinise anything offered as proof of ownership with great care and caution, especially invoices and receipts.

The Cosworth is the car loved by thieves, and investing £30 or so in a computer history check on a Cosworth is money well spent.

People-mover that's a real car

ROADTEST

Most motorists seeking a seven-seater are drawn to the "people-mover" or multi-purpose vehicle, *writes Alan Copps.* These cars have been the subject of such a publicity blitz that you might be forgiven for thinking there was no alternative if you need seven seats.

But there is, and if, like me, you'd rather drive in a car than on a platform, it's an ideal solution: the seven-seater estate. There are not many on the market, but the Peugeot 406 Family Estate must have a strong claim to being the best — it is after all based on a car acknowledged as the leader in its class.

The snag with most people-movers is the trade-off between the number of passengers and the amount of luggage space. With a full load in most such vehicles, luggage space is at a premium. If you're carrying fewer than seven passengers it can be increased by means of taking out two or three seats completely. But this poses two further problems, the removal of seats is often a cumbersome and, for all but superfit or superstrong people, a taxing procedure. Then once you've got the seats out you've got to store them somewhere, which for anyone without a garage can be an even greater hurdle.

I have a theory that most people movers are bought not by parents but by children. They love these vehicles because of the high seating position. Some drivers might also find the extra view over traffic appealing. But while the best MPVs are genuinely versatile vehicles, the worst are little short of vans with windows, and I'd rather drive a car anyday.

The great virtue of the 406 Family Estate is the way that it squares that circle: not only is it a car renowned for its performance, handling and level of comfort, but if you want it to be, it becomes with a minimum of effort a seven-seater with at least as much luggage space remaining as you can find in most MPVs.

As a normal five-seater, there is a generous load space. If you want seven seats, all you have to do is pull up two cleverly constructed rear-facing seats, complete with seat belts, which fold out of the load-area floor. Although at first sight the extra seats with their tubular construction look a little spartan, for children they proved perfectly comfortable even when stuck for an hour in a west London traffic jam. The fact that they face rearwards seemed to appeal to the independent urges of the older children.

What this design acknowledges is that people like me who want cars with seven seats only want to use all seven seats on comparatively few occasions. To have such versatility without the necessity for humping seats around is a real asset.

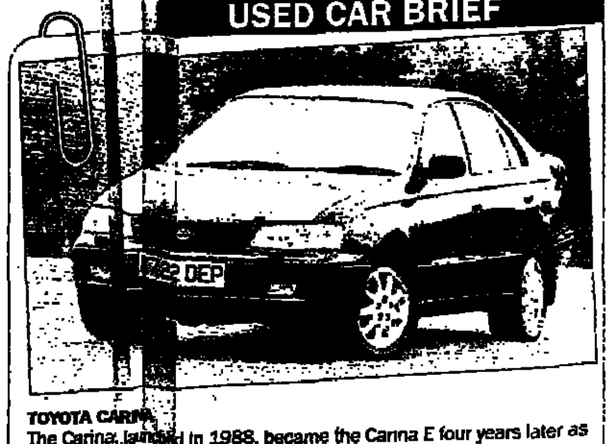
But it's far from being the only asset. In what is arguably the most competitive section of the car market, the Peugeot 406 has established an enviable reputation as "a driver's car". Allied to the striking good looks of the 406 range, a wide choice of engines and excellent economy, the Family Estate adds up to a very appealing package.

Family Estate enjoys good looks and a reputation as a driver's car

PEUGEOT 406 ESTATE

Engines: 1.8, 2.0, 2-litre turbo or 3-litre V6 petrol. 1.9 and 2.1-litre turbo-diesel.
Performance: (1.8-litre petrol) max speed 115mph, 0-62mph in 11.4 seconds.
Economy: (1.8-litre petrol) Urban cycle 22.7mpg, extra-urban 40.3mpg, combined cycle 31.4mpg.
Equipment: (1.8L) Driver and passenger airbags, keypad immobiliser, remote locking, four-speaker RDS radio cassette.
Price: from £15,440 on the road.

USED CAR BRIEF



TOYOTA CARINA
The Carina, launched in 1988, became the Carina E four years later as production of the new-look version began in Britain. Available as a four-door saloon, five-door hatch, and estate, the Carina engine range includes 1.6, 1.8 and 2-litre petrols as well as 2-litre diesel and turbo diesels. Changes in 1995 saw the introduction of the "lean burn" engines, made in Wales, which offer exceptional fuel economy.

✓ **GOOD NEWS:** Fuel figures around 40mpg are par for the course and the Carina is on average 10per cent more economical than rivals. Plenty of legroom front and rear, as well as generous head room make long trips less of a chore. A 3-year/[illegible]0,000 mile warranty is testament to Toyota's confidence in the car, underlined by galvanised body to deter rust.

⊘ **BAD NEWS:** The engines, especially the 1.6-litre, can get noisy when pressed for performance, and the clutch action can seem heavy. Replacement parts relatively pricey, and insurance reflects this with higher premiums. Suffers badly from a lack of image. Body roll in corners a common complaint.

LOOK FOR: Only late 1994 all cars got a driver side airbag as standard. For those especially concerned with fuel economy and who do the high mileage to benefit, the 2-litre diesel is worth considering, if a bit noisy. Early XI and XLi give good value.

AVOID: Strangely, while a direct competitor to the Mondeo, Vectra and Peugeot 405/406, the Carina does not spring instantly to mind as a contender, even though there are precious few reasons to avoid this car.

SAFETY: The Carina and Carina E rate centre-stage in the upper medium car rankings according to the Department of Transport's league tables, above the old-shape Cavalier and Sierra alongside the Renault 21 and VW Passat, but behind the Honda Accord, Ford Mondeo and Mercedes 190.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1994 1.6-litre Carina E GLi costs a 55-year-old professional, male or female, with full no claims bonus, living in Winchester, £186 a year fully comprehensive. A 22-year-old male living in south London, with one year no claims, pays £783, and a similar female pays £677.

REPLACEMENT PARTS (Prices supplied by Glassmatix 01932 [illegible]823): Clutch assembly £1[illegible]; exhaust £164; rear damper £[illegible]; radiator £203; alternator £3[illegible]; starter motor £212; front brake pads (axle set) £62.

£ **PRICES:** Expect to pay £2,500-£5,000 for a pre-1992 Carina; £5,250 for a 1993 K-reg Carina E 1.6 Xi four-door; £5,850 for a 1992 J-reg 2-litre Carina E five-door; £6,500 for a 1992 J-reg Carina E 2.0 GTi four-door; £9,300 for a 1994 L-reg Carina 2.0 GTi five-door and £10,500 for a 1996 N-reg Carina E 1.8 GS five-door.

OVERALL: An exceptionally capable saloon, roomier and more reliable than most, that offers above average competence. Unfortunately the Carina does not dazzle. It hides its light so deeply under the bushel that it needs to be sought out. The Carina will reward those who find it with trustworthy and long-lasting motoring.

Ferodo's bike-record braker

■ THE COMPANY that claims the title of "world's first brake manufacturer" is celebrating its centenary this year by sponsoring an attempt on the British land-speed record for a motorcycle.

Ferodo, which made the first brake blocks for early cars and was producing brakes for London Underground trains by 1907, is backing an attempt on the record by pupils of Beauchamps School in Essex which will take place at Elvington airfield in Yorkshire on the July 19. The record currently stands at 209mph. The pupils' machine is based around a tuned Suzuki GSX1100 engine.

The name Ferodo was invented by founder Herbert Frood, and its involvement with motorsport dates back to 1926. It has won more than 330 Formula One grand prix.

The Ferodo trophy presented annually for outstanding achievement in motorport is one of the most sought-after prizes. First won by Jaguar in 1953, last year it was awarded to Damon Hill.

Used-car buyers beware

SPARE PARTS

■ WITH THE rush for R-registration cars from August 1 expected to release a flood of trade-ins on to the second-hand market, buyers of used cars are being advised to protect their vehicles from theft.

Buyers of used models may need to take action to benefit from security measures that are already installed, says Retainagroup, which runs the National Vehicle Security Register backed by ten leading makers and more than 1,000 motor dealers. The NVSR system means that the car's security code and Retainagroup's 24-hour checkline number is permanently etched on to the window. Ownership details are kept on a secure database.

This acts as a deterrent for thieves and as a means of verifying ownership, but anyone buying such a car needs to inform Retainagroup to maintain this protection. Owners can register their vehicles for a one-off fee of £11 by calling the company on 0181-871 1333. "More than half a million vehicles are stolen in the UK every year and 60 per cent of these are never recovered," says Wendy Rowe, managing director of Retainagroup.

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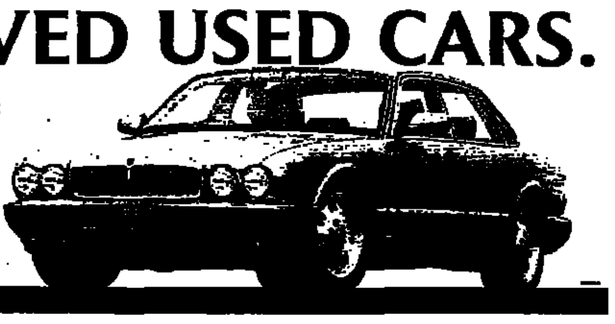

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Austin's ung sales succ hits half-cery

One of the unsung heroes of British motoring celebrated its 50th anniversary last weekend, *Morag Preston writes.* The Austin Devon, the first of the modern family cars and Britain's best selling vehicle after the war, has waited almost half a century to win the approval it deserves.

Among the 33 Devons that turned up at Longbridge, the site of the ground-breaking Austin production plant, on Sunday, were two rare gems. A two-door saloon, of which only 16,000 were made, had been specially restored for the birthday celebrations. An eye-catching Dorset covertible, made in Australia, was also on show. Five former employees from the plant in Longbridge, now in their 80s, turned out to complete the parade.

Designed to appeal to the American market, the first of 273,958 Austin Devons rolled off the production line in 1947. At that time it was Britain's best dollar-earner. The first cars were shipped to America before they were seen in Europe. Leonard Lord, then managing director of Austin, knew he needed to capture the US market if the latest contri-

Dollr retue

bution to in- dustry wa

It was t to have an lve engine aent front suspe in a variety ours, including and mist green

Austin the first compy a public rel In the newly lan Hess chall facturers to stin Devon at ery racetrack i947. He bet 10and the Austin

Three ye bid to boost salain at the sand clocked up in 10,000 mi the Austin Deced by the Aset. Only 200 ain, hut its follcely loyal. Accead teacher Da the Austin Dnta- tive for theties Car Club: the unsung hish motoring, was marketed t as an ordinarn."

Devon was the first Austin with ov es

Matt White

1966 Ford Cortina, left, belonged to four-times winner Jose Mimoso, who took the race seriously. The Bentley contingent included this Portuguese-owned 1935 3.5-litre DHC

Classic japes on the Madeira wet

Morag Preston went on the beautiful rally that people only pretend to treat light-heartedly

If drinking rather than speed were the criterion for the Madeira Antique and Classic Car Rally, the competition among passengers would be stiff. Up and down a tortuous mountain landscape, entrants are as distracted by the local bars as the colourful flora.

Slotted into the back of a 1931 Bentley Speed Six, our first pit stop was for a shot of *poncha*, a heart-stopping concoction of sugar cane brandy, honey and lemon juice. Sandwiched between a 1928 Austin Six Tourer and a 1936 BMW Fraser Nash, it was a heady ride to another watering hole in the picturesque village of Santana. Walnut-skinned Madeirans squeezed up against jacaranda trees, waving madly as we passed with an ungainly blast on the Bentley's horn.

Now in its tenth year, the four-day, 300km rally that ended last Sunday, billed as one of the most beautiful, attracts British, German, Dutch, and Madeiran classic car fanatics. Organised by Portuguese surgeon, Dr Joao Mendes de Almeida, who is president of the *Club de Automoveis Classicos de Madeira*, the rally this year attracted a total of 89 vehicles. Although barred from taking part in the race himself, Dr de Almeida has an impressive fleet of his own — a 1946 MG TC, a 1947 HRG Aerodynamic, a 1953 Jaguar XK 120, and a Mercedes SL Roadster for everyday use.

The first leg of the rally was a test of speed and skill around the floodlit fountains in the capital, Funchal. Jose Mimoso, the winner for the past four years, is a hairy-chested Madeiran who works as a toy manufacturer on the island. Squeezed in his 1966 Ford Cortina GT, he always takes the race very seriously.

I joined Robert and Janet Woolford from Weybridge in their bottle-green Bentley, as they battled for space on the snaking roads, up against oncoming lorries and hill-weary pedestrians. An accountant with an in-depth knowledge of Madeira, Mr Woolford was the perfect chauffeur.

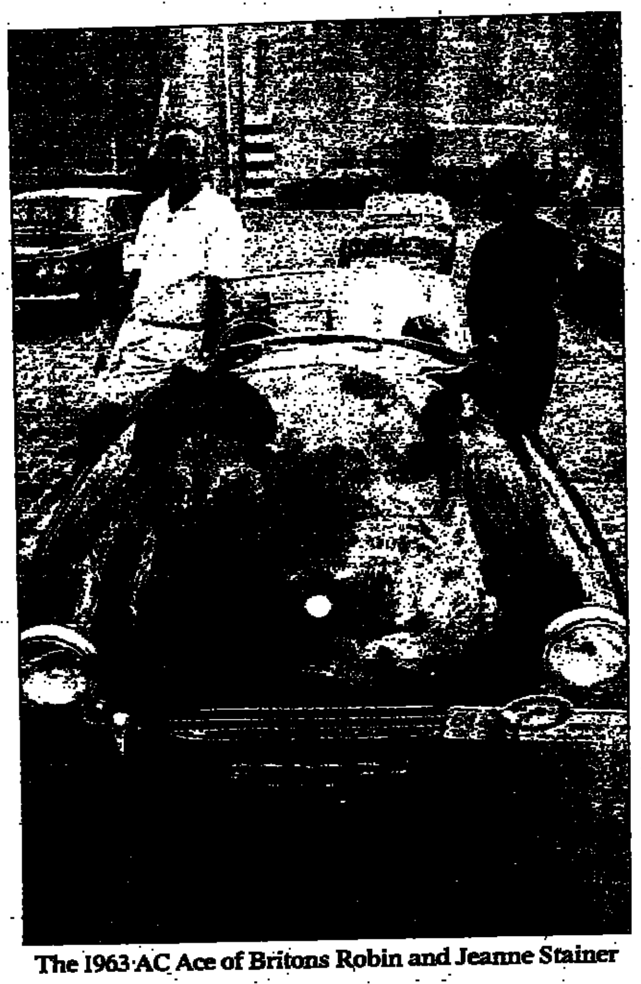
But the second leg of the rally was the Woolford's worst. Manoeuvring the Bentley up to Paul de Serra, the only plateau on the island, we were cursed by mountain mist. Defenceless without a windscreen, Mrs Woolford was busily employed wiping the condensation off of her husband's spectacles.

Among the most voluble competitors was Dennis Richardson, who, in his eye-catching red 1931 Alfa Romeo GS Zagato, came spectacularly low down in the final list. But the Lincolnshire farmer, who has only a finger and thumb on his right hand, says he was there "just for the fun of it" anyway. "My wife only agreed to come with me to get some sunshine. Look at her, she's drenched." Mrs Richardson, who once manned the petrol pumps at a local garage and loves cars as much as her husband, remained in the passenger's seat for the rally. Asked why, she said: "Well, would you want to drive a car with the accelerator in the middle?"

Navigating is a serious business, particularly when you are married to the driver. Margaret Lansdale from Yorkshire, who was navigating for her husband Barrie, in their 1967 Lotus Elan S3 SE FHC, said: "We're divorced after every race. But we won't be speeding this time. We were worried it was going to be too competitive, but you don't want to throw your car off a cliff, do you?"

Among the youngest competitors was Charles Haydon, 36, a long-haired Brit living in France, accompanied by his Madeiran girlfriend, driving a 1969 AC428 Fastback. He scoffed: "People claim they're not competitive, then you see them stomping back to the hotel with yards in between them."

Car snobbery was rife. Lined up along the harbour in Funchal for scrutineering, Paul Veenhuijzen, a monocled Dutchman was standing proudly by his 1928 Bentley 4½ Le Mans. Fiddling with his eyewear, he sniffed: "I can't talk to anyone here. I cannot relate to these modern cars." Veenhuijzen, who drives his Bentley to the office every day and to London or Le Havre on business, soon relaxed. He was last seen, florid of face, with a glass in his hand, encouraging guests at the gala dinner on to the heel-marked dance floor.



The 1963 AC Ace of Britons Robin and Jeanne Stainer

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Motoring careers into the millennium

Vaughan Freeman starts our look at future car designs by asking why the thriving British industry is having so much trouble recruiting young blood

Doctors, police officers, lawyers, even journalists, all regularly feature in sexy television roles, cashing in on *the popular image of* their glamorous careers and *lifestyles*.

Nobody, though, has yet made a six-part drama about a high-powered car company executive from Birmingham, or a mini-series about a pony-tailed designer or shop-floor car plant worker in Swindon.

The problem for a car *industry desperate to recruit* fresh blood, is that it is not *seen* as "sexy". While wannabes queue to become barristers, doctors and City brokers, the eyes of school-leavers and university graduates glaze over when the chance of a career in the automotive industry is offered.

That lack of small-screen *interest reflects a wider disen*chantment with the world of carmaking that is sending worrying signals to industry chiefs.

This is despite Britain's car industry being worth billions of pounds, with design studios that put their Milan, Turin and Detroit counterparts to shame. Those working in Britain to create *the cars of* tomorrow use high-tech computer *back-up matched* only by the aerospace and defence industries.

For those who choose a career in the car world, Walter Hasselkus, put in charge of Rover by parent BMW, has only praise: "From our British workforce we expect commitment, hard work, and enthusiasm, all of which are there." *The problem, he says,* is finding enough right-calibre *people in the first place:* "When it comes to manufacturing engineering, the British are not convinced, or as dedicated as young people are in Germany, especially in the universities.

"In Britain we need the training and the competitiveness. Unfortunately the old habits still seem in place. In the old days aspiring people would travel to administer far-off parts of the Empire rather than go to the North East to work in engineering.

"*That way of thinking is still* here. In Britain, parents think*ing of a career for their* children think first of the professions, of them becoming a lawyer or a doctor or whatever. Becoming an engineer is an option that is way, way down.

"In Germany it *would* be inconceivable for a lawyer, and I have *nothing against* lawyers, to be considered above a member of the BMW board."

Apart from receiving Government aid grants, one of the main reasons that car companies like Nissan, Toyota and Honda have set up shop in *Britain is the reserve of* engineering skills available.

It *seems though is if that* reservoir of skills, especially since they must now be matched to computer literacy, could be drying up. Korean manufacturer Daewoo's Worthing Technical Centre in West Sussex — the firm's biggest outside Korea — is recruiting around 250 new staff to take the total up to 1,100. *But finding the right* people is a headache for Daewoo's Engineering Managing Director Jim Mason.

"The aero industry is seen as 'sexy', but the motor industry just is not," he says. "We have got to change that but it is not something that we can do by next Tuesday.

"Engineers themselves have *to earn the kind of respect that* doctors have in our society, *and we have to encourage* engineers to become far more interested in their continuous professional development.

He adds: "The impression that people have of the automotive indus*try is largely governed by an* idea of production plants, and they tend to think of automotive engineering as producing thousands of vehicles in a car plant.

"On top of which the car has become a throw-away product, even though an enormous *amount of work, thousands of* hours of effort, goes into every *aspect of a car. Yet the custom*er thinks no more of it often than they do of a fridge.

"The car is extremely complex to build and is a very clever machine, yet all too often it is seen as a throw-away item. When you are talking to kids at school, they do not see it as a *high-tech* business.

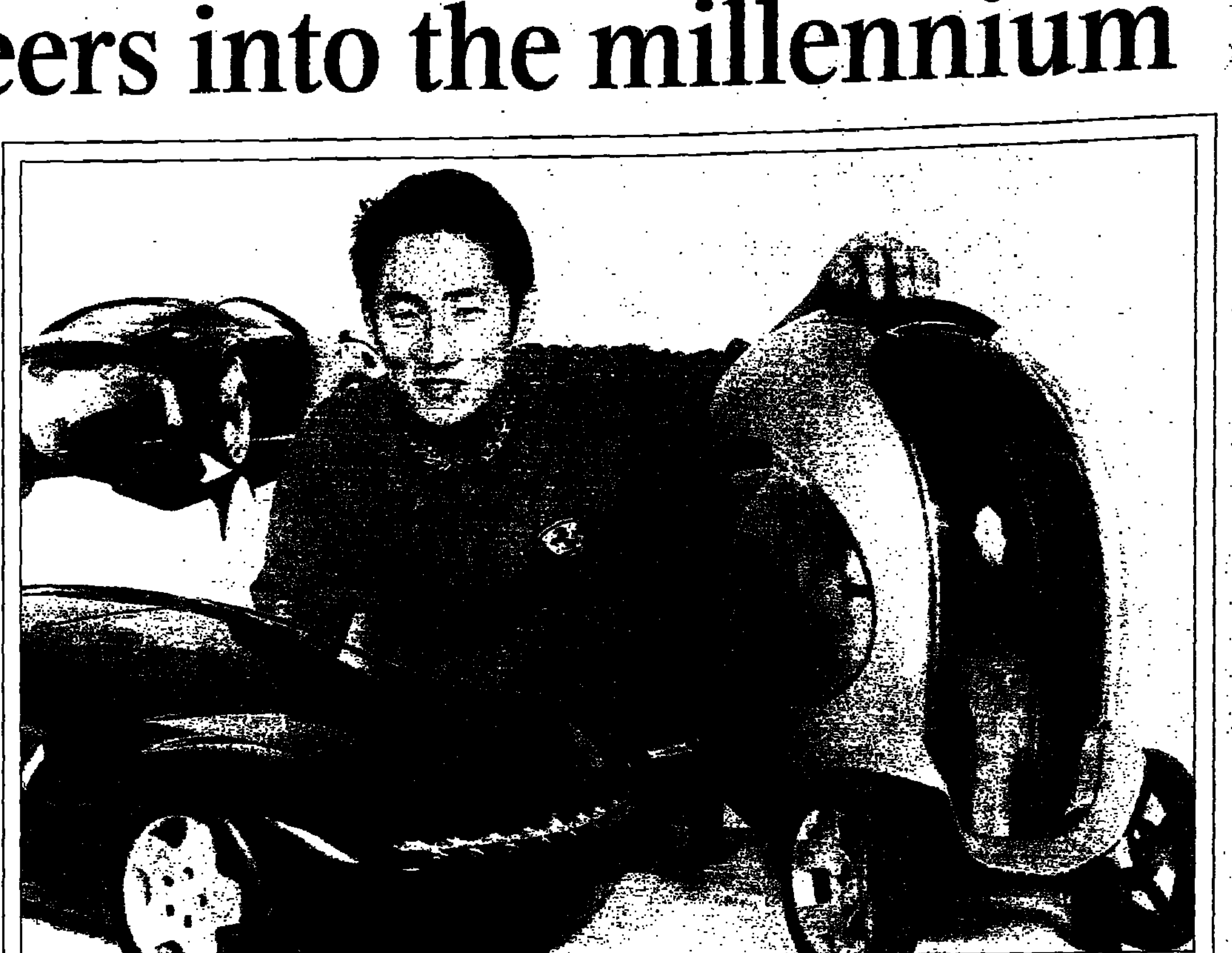
"*When you bring people* here to our Worthing Technical Centre they are amazed at the diversity of work that we do. They have no idea what goes into designing, building and creating a car."

To help bridge the gap, Daewoo is working on plans to sponsor college students as well as whole university de*partments in an effort to* extend its research and dev*elopment capabilities.*

Mason says: "We want to do projects for example, on how people bend their bodies, their knees and elbows, getting in and out of cars, as well as into the properties of different construction materials, and how they can be manufactured for volume car production."

At least Mr Mason is doing *his bit. Both his sons now* work as engineers.

Rover's Walter Hasselkus


Selvaag with his bizarre vehicle, designed to carry older people in 40 years' time, when resources are scarce, but grey power is at its peak

Design prodigy creates retirement runabout

While it might look like a crash helmet for a house-fly — in fact it is Per Ivar Selvaag's vision of the car of the future, *writes Eve-Ann Prentice.*

The award-winning student, now in his final year at the Royal College of Art, has been recruited as a designer for Rover after producing a new look for Ferrari, and dreaming *up this futuristic vehicle.*

The bizarre-looking design, with its *space-age body mounted* on what looks like a veteran car chassis, is aimed at being a transport of delight for elderly people. Selvaag was inspired by the thought that huge numbers of older people are likely to make up a large proportion of the population by the time he is a pensioner.

The extraordinary car *is seen as* half-taxi, half-private vehicle, cater*ing for 40 years' time, when fossil* fuels are scarce and people are more *likely to share modes of transport.*

"The concept is for a car 40 years *from now, when I am 65," says the* 25-year-old, a Korean-born Norwegian citizen. "I foresee that my age group will be much more influential than people of 65 are today. We will have more money and influence the clothes people wear and we will command greater respect from the young. I don't want to be seen as someone less able than others."

His car of the future would be able *to carry four people, including one in* a wheelchair, and there would be *(almost) standing room only.*

"You will stand up more than you will *sit down in it,*" says Selvaag. "You will sort of perch in it and take *more weight on your feet than on* your bum." The car, with side-opening doors, would probably be powered by recycled engines and be able to use several forms of fuel.

Selvaag, who gained a BA in transport design at Coventry before moving to the Royal College of Art, last month won the £1,000 Triplex Prize for the best final-year vehicle design project. Last year, he won the *Citröen Car for the Next Millennium* award.

Mike Fallon, of Pilkington glass, which sponsors the Triplex Prize, says: "Cars are looking even sexier these days and a prerequisite is vehicle designers with energy, vision and originality."

However, Selvaag knows his design is unlikely to become reality in this form. "This is not something *feasible for today,*" he says. "*When I* am 65 this design will just be a memory, but *it shows the manufac*turers what you think about car design."

As a graduate of the RCA's transportation design course, Selvaag joins a network of British-trained staff who feature in the studios of almost every major car-maker worldwide. Ken Greenley, professor of vehicle design, has credits which include the Bentley *Azure, the Aston Martin Virage* and more recently the Korean-made Ssanyong Musso off-roader.

Amazing glazing: screen history

Early cars had no *windscreens*, but as speeds increased, flat screens came into use. These were of plate glass and could cause shocking injuries in crashes.

■ BEFORE the development of wipers (hand-operated ones first seen in France in 1907, electric in 1923 in England), screens were rubbed over with freshly cut potatoes or *apples to repel water.*

■ LAMINATED safety glass was invented by accident when French *chemist Edouard Bene*dictus dropped a glass flask containing a celluloid mix. Instead of shattering, it bounced. Recognising the significance of the discovery, Benedictus patented a safety glass/ celluloid *laminate in June* 1910.

■ GLASS first appeared as factory equipment on Stutz and Rickenbacker *cars in 1926. The next* year it was standard on the Model A Ford.

■ ROYAL cars were not *fitted with safety glass* until 1931 because King *George V was concerned* that the discolouration *from which early* laminates suffered would prevent *people* from seeing the royals inside.

■ *THE FIRST* car to feature a built-in *demister was the 1931* Horch, a German make *later subsumed* into Audi.

■ THE ORIGINAL curved all-across windscreen was fitted to the Chrysler Imperial Custom models of 1934.

■ A SCREEN-washing device first appeared on English-built Standand and Triumph models in 1935.

■ GLASS became compulsory on British-registered cars in 1937.

New glasses make cars far cleverer

Ian Morton sees head-up displays, infra-red vision and theft-proofing

Brilliant sun has been beating down on your parked car. You open the door. Time was when you were met by a furnace blast. Not now. *Sweet* air welcomes you into the cool *interior.*

You drive off. Essential in*formation gleams in the screen* in your line of sight. No longer do you read instruments on the fascia. You are held up at traffic lights and a lout with an eye on your briefcase and a half-brick in his hand batters at your side window. *The brick* bounces off.

Rainwater from a summer downpour pours off the screen without distorting your view, and any excess is scooped off by automatic wipers. Your screen is heated, so no misting occurs.

You drive into fog, but infra-red images of what lies ahead *appear mirrored in the screen.* You are experiencing automotive glass in the first decade of the new millennium.

None of this is fanciful. Car glass is poised to do far more for the motorist than just provide vision and protection against the elements. Glass is *becoming intelligent.*

Keeping cool has presented European carmakers with a special problem. Other parts of the world with high heat and humidity characteristics appear prepared to continue with conventional air conditioning, but air conditioning drinks fuel and *boosts exhaust* emissions, and EU fuel-effici*ency objectives have been set* at over 90mpg. Glass will play a *major* role in the solution.

Ideal car glass would allow no ultraviolet or infra-red radiation to reach the interior while meeting the legal requirement for light transmission — 75 per cent for European windscreens. The laws of physics preclude this *combination*, so the glazing designer must work towards *the best compromise. His tools* are tinting and coating.

About *ten years ago* Libbey-Owens-Ford, the US subsidiary of UK-based Pilkington Group, launched a green-tinted glass which reduced ultraviolet and allowed through only 44 per cent of infra-red radiation.

This technology is widely *used in today's MPVs and sports utilities, and is pre*ferred to more expensive *coatings. In its darkest form it* has been most spectacularly adopted for the huge wrap-around rear screen of the Vauxhall Tigra.

Inside the car, coatings can cut reflections by up to 50 per cent. For outside surfaces, glass that hates rainwater — *hydrophobic* or slick glass — is likely to become a familiar *feature within the next five* years, according to Pilkington. The *exterior surface* is coated *with a chemically bonded* silicon-based compound that *rejects water, so rain droplets* are blown away in the air-stream, carrying dissolved dirt with them.

Daimler-Benz is testing such glass, and Toyota has some models on sale in Japan with slick side glass.

The possibility of projecting information on to the windscreen in the driver's sight*line, as used in military* aircraft, is now close to reality for drivers. At the NEC in November, Jaguar will show a head-up display system developed in collaboration with Pilkington.

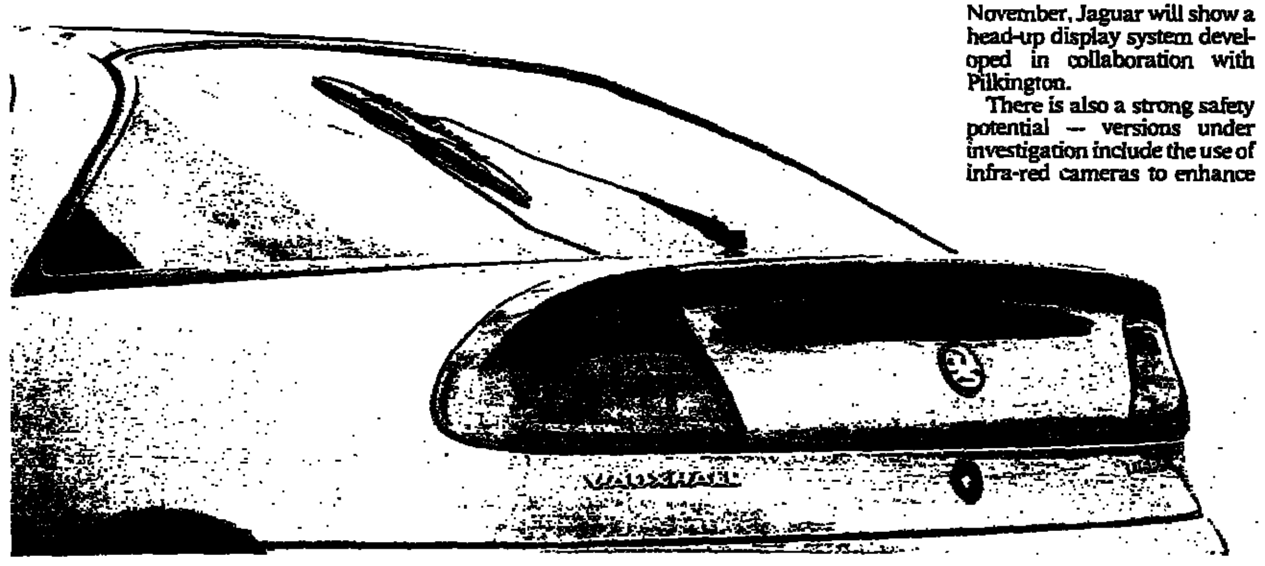
There is also a strong safety potential — versions under investigation include the use of infra-red cameras to enhance the driver's vision at night and in fog. *Head*-up glazing with vision enhancement is expect*ed to make its first production* appearance on an American *truck in about* two years.

Improved security is high on the glass-supplier's agenda. No matter how sophisticated the locking or alarm system on a car, there is little the owner can do to combat side-window break-ins.

Car-makers are looking to *laminated glass,* which takes far longer to penetrate and *would add only about £100 to* the total cost of the car. Within ten years it will be virtually standard, says Pilkington.

Car designer and glass expert must now work together virtually from the first graphics on the computer-aided-design terminal. Glass is getting cleverer and shapelier, and the glass supplier has *become a key member of the* creative team from the very beginning of the design process.

Carmakers may now translate motor-show concept cars with dramatic glass styling into volume manufacture. And it can be done swiftly — the *Vauxhall* Tigra is a case in point; since it was exhibited, show visitors were asked if they liked it, and their favourable response took it swiftly into production. Without recent glazing advances this would not have been possible.


Darkly tinted glass has been spectacularly adopted for the huge wrap-around rear screen of the Vauxhall Tigra

Audi out for new talents

Pay £90 for a ticket to this month's Audi Foundation ball in Bath and you could be doing your bit to further home-grown design talent, *writes Russell Hayes.*

The English importer of the prestige brand is launching a non-profit organisation to support budding designers between *the ages of 18 and 25.* Anyone can apply, not just *students. The call has already* gone out for a fund manager.

"The aims of the Foundation reflect the Audi culture, where ideas are a precious commodity," the importer says.

The number of awards available has yet to be announced, but in the first year, *students will receive financial* support as long as their ideas *can demonstrate something of* commercial value or benefit, wherever they study or work. And it isn't just about cars. Last year Audi was a sponsor of the BBC Design Award, which was won by a wind-up radio for the Third World.

"It's really to encourage *youth," said a spokeswoman.* "We are known for our design and, though this may sound corny, we want to give something back." A job with Audi is not, however, necessarily on the cards.

Pilkington's Italian subsidiary produced samples for the Fiat Bravo in record time

Going like the glazers

The latest technology brings quicker fixes, reports **Ian Morton**

The design of the tailgate of the three-door Fiat Bravo posed a typical set of problems for the glass industry. There was a 30-month schedule for Pilkington's Italian subsidiary, SIV, to cooperate with Fiat to produce the design and then to instal deep-bend equipment developed in Britain. *Then robots had* to be made to handle and fix the glass on the production lines at *Cassino and Rivalta.*

During the development stages, proto*types and samples* were *turned round* more rapidly than ever before and *important modifications* were accomplished in as little as eight weeks, says SIV's top Fiat link, Michele Lizzi.

Thus, he says, the company was able to prove it could act fast — essential in an industry that may soon be taking only two years to get cars from the drawing board to the showroom.

"A powerful combination of highly advanced technologies enabled us to create the result, in which the glass almost appears to be suspended above the Bravo's body, and where the sophisticated flush-glazing system perfectly matches *current styling requirements.*

"Press-bending at the frontiers of *technology allowed us to achieve* the very complex shapes and curvatures with total control of precision while maintaining the highest optical quality," says Lizzi.

Another challenge in glass was set by the design of the current Range Rover. It became necessary to find a way to engineer a windscreen which went beyond the existing capabilities of the glass-manufacturing process. Range Rover wanted curves that were twice as tight as conventional screens:

"The winged screen, with its increased outer edge curvature, was the only way to solve the complex style problem and achieve the required smooth blending of front screen and side glazing," says Land Rover design manager George Thomson.

Conventional laminated screens are shaped by the sag-bending technique in which a pair of flat glass sheets are supported around their periphery and heated to the point where gravity forms then into the required shape — good for optical quality but limited for complexity of shape.

So Pilkington laboratories developed a *new forming technique* in which gravity was assisted by a die to push the glass to its final shape, allowing precise control of edge shape, cross curvature and the tighter radius demanded by the stylist.

[هكذا من الأصل]

BRIEFS

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INDEPENDENT Insurance is offering unlimited free European cover on all its classic car policies and confirmation in the main European languages, *Morag Preston writes*. Unlimited audio cover and free cover for up to £250 of spare parts kept in the car or garage will also be included. Should your car be written off, you will be able to buy the remaining salvage.

■ MARKETED as "the on-road car with an off-road look", the new Volvo V70 Cross Country is powered by the same 2.5-litre, five-cylinder, light pressure turbo engine as the V70 AWD model. At a cost of around £30,000, it will be available in the UK from September in five-speed manual or four-speed electronic automatic models.

■ PEUGEOT has realigned its UK prices on key models within its 406 saloon and estate car ranges, dropping the 2-litre LX petrol price to that of the 1.8-litre and reducing the premium for air-conditioning on the LX, GLX, and SRi models.

■ HONDA is marketing the Civic 1.5i and 1.5i LS models as among the most fuel-efficient cars in their class, up to 30 per cent more economical than the Ford Escort 1.4 or the Vauxhall Astra LS 1.4i 16v. The Civics are also being promoted as having one of the most powerful engines in its class; the variable valve timing and lift by electronic control (VTEC) system allows a lean petrol/air mixture to be burnt during steady-speed driving conditions.

■ WORK has begun on the largest solar power installation at any manufacturing site in Europe and the first of its kind in any automative plant in the world, at Ford's Bridgend Engine Plant in South Wales.

Street stars act to save young lives

Helen Mound on how a schools' theatre group is trying to get crucial road-safety messages across to a new generation

StopWatch Theatre actors are all professionals, but also are interested in working with children — they follow the plays with workshops

The title might sound like the oldest joke in the playground, but when children are invited to see *Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?* what they get is a play with a deadly serious message.

Presented by the StopWatch Theatre Company, it's the longest running production in a series aimed at getting the road-safety message across, especially to children who may spend so much of their lives travelling by car they are uncertain of the basic rules of the road for pedestrians.

"A lot of education is campaign-led with the emphasis on 'don't do this' or 'you mustn't do that'," says Adrian New of StopWatch.

"Our plays aim to look at why children want to take risks in the first place. We address the reasons why stealing a car or playing chicken on the road is considered a boost to their image. It's like concentrating on the causes rather than the symptoms."

> 'We look at why children think stealing a car will boost their image'

StopWatch was launched seven years ago by New and his partner Steven Pearce. "We concentrate on issues that are important to youngsters like road safety and bullying, and more recently problems such as joy riding and drugs."

Written by Mark Wheeller, a drama teacher from Southampton, *Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?* is aimed at nine to 12-year-olds and sets out to address the dangers to young cyclists. Around a third of Britain's schoolchildren are believed to ride bicycles and only 18 per cent claim to wear a cycle helmet. In Cambridge — a city that actively promotes cycling — every second road accident involves a cyclist.

While writing the play, Wheeller's attention was drawn to the trend of playing "chicken", a dangerous game in which children dare each other to run across roads in front of speeding cars. The play was changed to look at the peer pressure children are under, both to play chicken and to ride cycles without wearing helmets. It aims to encourage children to stand up for themselves and make their own decisions about their safety.

Despite expensive advertising by the Department of Transport such as the latest £7 million "Kill your Speed" campaign, encouraging drivers to slow down, local authorities say it's youngsters who need more education about the dangers on roads and have introduced Theatre in Education as a way of teaching children road safety.

StopWatch, based in Southampton, is one of a handful of Theatre in Education companies around the country that county councils are booking as part of the national curriculum's Personal and Social Education section.

Road safety officers believe the main problem is that children are no longer learning good road safety habits from a young age because they aren't brought up to walk to and from places — most of them travel by car instead. As a result, many are reaching their teens with little or no road sense.

Adrian New agrees: "Young children these days are genuinely no good at stopping at the kerb and looking. Because they rarely walk anywhere with their parents, they haven't developed instinctive road safety habits and they don't seem to understand why they should."

Plays such as *Too Much Punch and Judy*, tackling the effects of drink driving, and *DriveTime*, about joy riding and car theft, are aimed at encouraging 14 to 16-year-olds to be more responsible motorists.

"These are two very important issues worth teaching children at a pre-driver age," says New. "We know there is a great deal of image, peer pressure, even parental habits behind the wheel, that affect youngsters when they first experience cars. Our plays try to explode the myth that dangerous and illegal behaviour will boost their image, and make children think harder about the consequences of their actions."

Each play tours the country for up to 13 weeks at a time. There are normally four actors in the cast, performing two 40-minute shows a day. Each show is followed by a workshop.

"Although we use professional actors and actresses, most are experienced in Theatre in Education and working with children," explains New. "They like to work directly with the audience and see the benefits from their work."

Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road? is the story of two mothers and two lively 13-year-old boys, one afraid he'll be laughed at for wearing a cycle helmet, the other suffering peer pressure to play chicken; the latter is eventually hit and killed by a car. The workshop then discusses the reasons and the effects of the two boys' actions.

The children at Coleridge Community College in Cambridge were keen to show they'd got the message, acting out the heartache the boys had caused their loved ones.

Charlie Farrier, actor and tour manager, admits keeping the young audiences' attention is hard work. "But we try to talk and think like them when we act to be accepted, and it works." It works so well that some children ask the actors what school they attend.

The Department of Transport claims Britain's child road-safety record is one of the best in Europe. In the last ten years, the number of child deaths on the roads has declined 52 per cent and serious injuries by 37 per cent.

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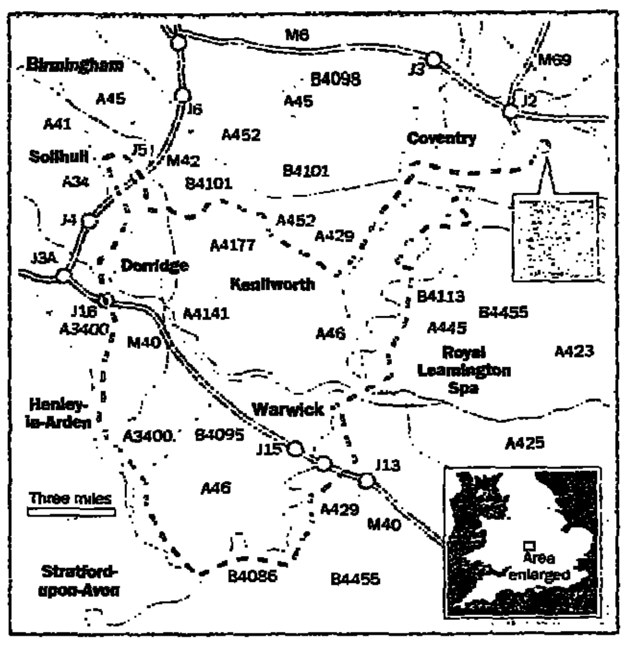
The great Midlands rally is already oversubscribed, but **Tony Dawe** says you might still take your historic vehicle

Curtains up on Shakespeare run



Innovation will be the theme this year of one of the most popular annual motoring events, which takes 470 vehicles on a 65-mile route through Shakespeare country.

For in addition to an historic collection of veteran, vintage and classic cars, a special contingent of 20 vehicles that have led the way in automotive design at different times during this century will take part in the parade on Sunday, September 7.

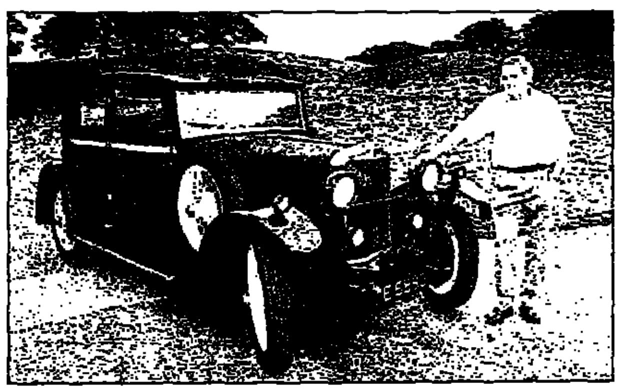
For the second year running, another 20 places on the heavily-oversubscribed event are being reserved for readers of *CAR 97* who would like to enter in interesting vehicles of their own.

The emphasis is being laid on innovation because the event, known for the past 12 years as the Shakespeare Run, is being sponsored this year by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers to mark its 150th anniverary — and the 50th anniversary of its automobile division.

"It is very appropriate in this year in particular for us to support this wonderful classic event in the heart of Britain's engineering community," says John Ling, the institution's technical manager.

The run has developed into a motoring occasion second only in importance and popularity to the London to Brighton veteran car rally with a far greater variety of intriguing but less ancient vehicles.

Last year, my family and I joined the event in Nigel Hugo's 1911 Model T Ford open tourer and were stunned by the size of the crowds waving us on through Coventry, Kenilworth, Henley-in-Arden, Stratford-upon-Avon and Warwick. Like all the entrants, we are eager to return this year but will have to fight to get a place.

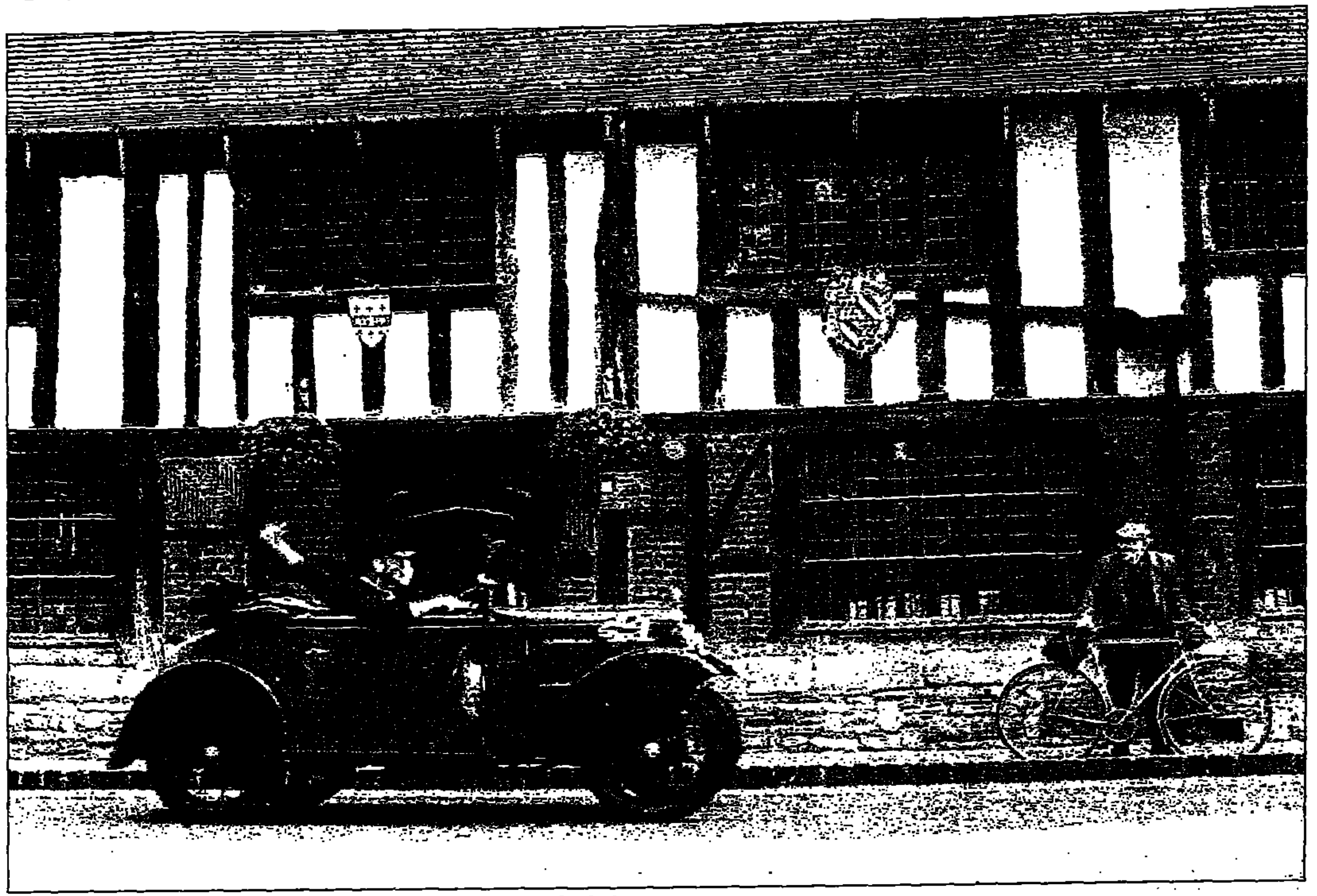


Graham Mellish's lovingly restored 1929 Talbot 14/45

"We are already over-subscribed for what has become the Midlands' most famous motoring event," says Martin Hone of International Festival Services, the organisers.

"The entries cover every aspect of motoring, including veteran and vintage models and later thoroughbreds like Bentleys, Lagondas and early Jaguars. They will be followed by a wide variety of classic British saloon and sports cars.

"A blockbuster display of 40 Porsches will also be included as a tribute to Larry Srodinski, a great collector of the marque and supporter of this event until his death from cancer last autumn. We have also accepted an entry of 19 motorcycles from 1931 to 1968. By the time the institution's 20 innovative vehicles are in place, we hope to have machines on parade propelled by steam, petrol, diesel, gas and even solar-power."



One of last year's competitors enjoying the scenic run through Shakespeare country

Hone outlined the criteria which *CAR 97* readers eager to take part should meet: "We are looking to find the 20 most interesting vintage, veteran and classic cars, prototypes, even the wacky and unusual, to represent *Times* readers and add a further dimension to the event."

Last year's winners ranged from a 1926 Austin Heavy 12 to a 1979 Triumph TRS and included such contrasting models as a 1930 fabric-bodied Austin Seven and a bright-red 1971 Piper P2 sports car.

One of the oldest of *The Times* Twenty was a 1929 Talbot 14/45, lovingly restored by Graham Mellish, a retired engineer of Stockport, Cheshire. "My daughter said I had bought 'an old shed' when I first acquired it and I nearly called it that until my wife decided that Bess would be a more suitable name for such a grand old lady," he said after completing the run in style.

Large as it was, his Talbot was overshadowed by a 1934 Rolls-Royce 20/25 owned by Aubrey Biddiscombe of Somerset, which was big enough to house several branches of his family for a tea party at Coombe Abbey country park after the event.

The park near Coventry will be the starting and finishing point for the I Mech E Coventry Run, as it is styled, and will contain numerous stalls and exhibitions. Special prizes will be awarded in the afternoon for the outstanding car of the day, the oldest Coventry-built entrant, the most unusual vehicle, the car with the sweetest sound and several other classifications.

The institution plans to extend the run into a weekend event by organising social events on the Saturday and hosting a display on both days with the theme: "Engineering, celebrating 150 years and looking to the future."

A chance to join the run in your own historic car

THE 20 *CAR 97* readers who win a coveted place for their car on the prestigious Coventry Run will also win petrol to take them to and from the event and a map to help them get there.

For BP has agreed to refund up to £50 worth of petrol expenses to each winner provided they produce a valid receipt from BP filling stations for the day of the event, Sunday September 7, the Saturday before or the Monday after. They will also receive a free Michelin road atlas of Great Britain.

To enter: *CAR 97* readers should send a letter with their name, address and home and work telephone numbers, details of their vehicle and why it deserves a place on the run. A colour photograph of the vehicle would help.

Send the letter and photograph to: *The Times* Twenty, PO Box 200, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 7TR.

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[هكذا من الأصل]

Mowers have their work cut out

Readers' letters this month touch on scythes, log cabins and spotting rural folk in town

HULTON GETTY

Crofters harvesting cereal crops by hand in the Hebrides during the Fifties. Far from being a thing of the past, scythes are still used and have many supporters

Never let it be said that this column is not at the cutting edge. At my merest hint that the art of scything might be a thing of the past you were quick to cut the feet from under me. Floods of people demanded to take part in my scything competition. We have enough willing scythers to cause concern to the motorised grass-cutting industry.

One word of apology. Ted Ham of Chelmsford, Essex, writes:

Scything, really! The tool is a scythe, but it is used to mow, and the user is a mower. Have you not heard of pubs called the Barley Mow or songs like Ten Men Went to Mow?

Ted is right, but if we were to alter the title of our challenge to the Grand Mowing Match, I fear some younger entrants might turn up with a Qualcast, which is not the idea. Instead, we are trying to preserve a skill which I thought was on the decline.

Far from it. David Cooper of Birchington, Kent, a nature reserve manager, rebukes me for not being aware of the practices of conservation organisations. He tells me scythes are in wide use on his reserve because:

1. Health and safety demands that heavy-duty power tools are not used when one is working alone.
2. The safety gear one has to wear when using this machinery is unbearably hot on even a mild day.
3. I prefer to avoid, wherever possible, polluting the countryside with fumes and noise.

All good points. And on the last one, I bet Brian Rennison of Piddletrenthide, Dorset, wishes he had Mr Cooper for a neighbour. He writes:

Petrol-driven strimmers have been the bane of my retirement to a supposedly quiet cottage in the heart of rural Dorset. Every year we hear the first stridulations around March 17 and they continue until late September. Somewhere within earshot almost every hour of every fine day, someone strims. As far as engine noise goes, we are far worse off than we had been in car-polluted Surrey because the snarl of the strimmer's engine is more intrusive than traffic noise.

Finally on this subject, a letter from a cunning canon. Peter Woodhead, of St Peter's Church, Brackley, writes:

If anyone wants an area in which to practise, there is a large churchyard here, a part of it without gravestones, and he or she is very welcome to have a go.

Those who have offered themselves as contestants can expect to hear from me within a few weeks.

Having brought the scythe to the nation's attention and revealed that our underlying love for it is still alive, I must report that so far I have failed to do the same for the log cabin which I suggested, not entirely seriously, might form an ecologically and visually acceptable solution to the ever-urgent problem of rural housing.

Having stated my case, I asked for three reasons why not. Sheila Smallshaw writes:

We have just spent 2½ years living in a log house on the Isle of Mull, so I certainly write from experience. It was not well insulated so heating was not cheap. During heavy rain and wind it leaked so that water dribbled down interior walls. It was not maintenance-free as the exterior needed regular treatment with Rentokil. Are these the three good reasons you need?

Possibly, although you may have been unlucky. I cannot believe all those Scandinavian log-house dwellers live with dribbles all winter. Mr C.S. Wall, of Alvaston, Derbyshire, writes:

What is needed is a complete reversal of the method whereby high-rise blocks have been built in urban areas, and sprawling individual units have been built in rural areas. If houses (instead of high-rise) were built in towns, this would do away with the concrete jungles and the problems associated with them.

If one-off, high-rise buildings were built in the countryside, this would give people cheaper, more affordable housing without taking up vast areas of land. It shouldn't be beyond the capability of some enterprising architect to design an environmentally acceptable tall building. After all, large sprawling buildings, such as Chatsworth House, are a perfectly acceptable sight — why not a single, properly designed, high-rise building?

DOWN TO EARTH

PAUL HEINEY

I offer you Mr Wall's thoughts out of a desire to see the look on the faces of conservationists when they read it, and to invite any architect to redraw Chatsworth in the same proportions as Canary Wharf.

Last month, in your letters, we were offered ways in which townsfolk could be recognised in the country. One positive clue was that they climb over the wrong end of a gate. A perplexed Miss Dex of Cambridge, writes:

Which is the right end of the gate to climb over, and why not climb over the middle?

Shall you tell her, or shall I?

Mr G.P. Boileau, of Dunstable, Bedfordshire, writes with the definitive guide to spotting country folk in an urban setting:

They wear badly fitting clothing, and generally look a mess. They carry the truly rural about their person, such that it smells awful.

They like to prop up the bar and shout at one another even when they stand next to each other. They bring their animals — dogs, pigs, sheep, goats — into the tavern where they feed them the same food and ale that they consume.

They constantly talk about the unfair treatment they get from the government, the public, the weather, their wives, and nature; and claim that we, the public, don't understand them. In other words, they are a collection of ordinary, miserable sods, but we love them.

Country dwellers might consider that as the first round in the contest. I look forward to more letters.

[illegible] letters are welcome on countryside matters, of all kinds. Address them to: Paul Heiney, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The court of king crimson

FEATHER REPORT

I WAS IN a lane in Cambridgeshire when a linnet flew over my head and landed on the tip of a dead branch at the top of an ash tree. The sun fell directly on it, and its crimson breast-patches and forehead glowed vividly. The bird was the same thickness as the branch and looked just like a fiery tip to it. Then it started singing loudly — that tinkling, whispering, formless song that might be a music made by the wind.

Another linnet flew up to the tree and the first bird chased it briefly, then returned to its perch. The other bird settled lower down on the other side of the tree and I could see it was also a male, with crimson on the head and breast, but with the colour much duller, and a much more worn look.

Then four more linnets flew in, and arranged themselves on twigs under the second male. They were all young birds, without the red and with more streaky plumage. They were fairly obviously the family of the second male, who had probably lost his shine bringing them up!

They sat there very contentedly, while the colourful male went on singing. He may have been an unmated bird, while the mother of the family was probably sitting on the eggs of a second brood in a hedge nearby. Linnets are sociable birds — and this little group reminded me of a quiet family relaxing in the garden, with a noisy, easygoing neighbour.

DERWENT MAY

- **What's about:** *Birders — Watch for male ducks moulting into their dull "eclipse" plumage. Twitchers — male black-headed bunting, Capel Fleet, Kent; fea's petrel, Norfolk; red-footed falcon, Merton, Oxfordshire. Birdline 0891 700222; 40p a min cheap rate, 50p at other times.*

PETER BROWN

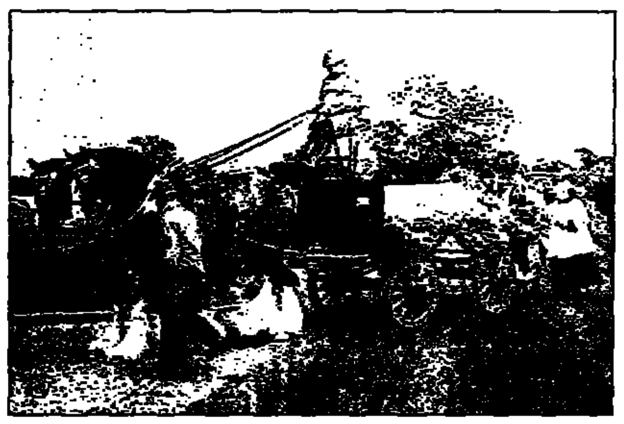
Linnets are sociable birds

At peace with a green burial

Carl Evans on a popular alternative to cemeteries and crematoriums

MARTIN BEDDALL

Arthur and Jill Tattersall planted a tree at Gisela's burial



The grand woodland burial of Gervase Jackson-Stops

Jill Tattersall buried her mother in a meadow on a farm while sheep and cattle grazed in adjoining fields. A hawthorn tree marks the spot, but there is no headstone.

That was two years ago and many more graves have since been dug, trees planted and bird boxes erected. A pond is planned, and one day the meadow will become not only a woodland nature reserve, but also a "green burial site", an alternative to cemeteries and churchyards.

The days of marble tombs, concrete crosses and headstones may be numbered. Green burials are "the fastest growing environmental movement in the UK", says Nicholas Albery, a founder of the Natural Death Centre, a London-based charity. "In 1993 there was one site, now there are 58 and they are more than doubling each year."

With 650,000 deaths in Britain each year there is a never-ending need for land in which to bury the deceased. Cemeteries are filling fast, taking space which could be used for recreational purposes and offering little cover for wildlife, say green burial supporters. More than 400,000 people are cremated, causing air pollution, while wooden coffins are made at cost to the trees. Crumbling headstones, some centuries old, lie neglected, often serving little purpose other than for local historians.

Now proponents of green burial sites are extolling the message that the land should be for the living, and that woodland "cemeteries" free of gravestones, but offering wildlife and plant habitats, are the future. They also claim such woodland burial sites, places in which to wander and enjoy the annual nature cycle, offer therapeutic healing for the bereaved.

The Natural Death Centre, which formed the Association of Nature-Reserve Burial Grounds, was set up in 1991 by Mr Albery and two other psychotherapists. Research had shown that nine out of ten people preferred to die at home and the charity's initial aim was to help families looking after a terminally ill or elderly person.

It was then found that some bereaved families gained comfort from helping with funeral arrangements. While the majority assume professional undertakers are needed to tie up the loose ends when someone dies, the NDC and other organisations discovered it was far simpler. A death certificate, issued by a doctor or hospital, is taken by the bereaved to the registrar and the body can be buried almost anywhere.

"Woodland burials just seemed to solve so many problems at once — the overcrowding of cemeteries, the need for diversification of farmers' incomes, an ageing population, and the need to encourage wildlife habitats on farms," Mr Albery says.

The green burial movement claims it is not trying to remove people's religious beliefs, and church services are quite normal before burial.

Christine Atkin, who runs Greenhaven Woodland Burial Ground in Warwickshire with her son, Nick Hargreaves, says: "The whole business can be as simple or elaborate as you like. The misconception that funerals are expensive, have to involve black hearses and undertakers, is wrong."

Greenhaven uses an estate car to collect the deceased, charging 70p a mile, but, says Mrs Atkin: "You can turn up with the body in your car, dig the grave yourself and plant your own tree. But one customer wanted a very grand affair and his burial involved a team of black horses pulling the coffin across the fields and a service carried out by the Bishop of Peterborough and the vicar of Northampton." This customer was Gervase Jackson-Stops, once architectural adviser to the National Trust.

About 65 people have been buried at Greenhaven. In Yorkshire, the Harrogate-based AB Wildlife Trust has acquired Kate's Fell, an area of woodland and pasture within Brimham Rocks. Because it is a site of special scientific interest, planning permission has been granted for only 25 graves. John Bradfield, the site organiser and a social worker, wants to sell the plots to buy more land for green burials.

Farmers, wildlife trusts and landowners are establishing sites. The East Devon District Council offers panoramic views over the sea at its Seaton green burial site. Graves, which in London can cost more than £1,000 because of land prices, are just £57, plus digging. In Christchurch, Dorset, a site run by Mike Hedger has been used for 100 burials and 100 more have been pre-booked.

"Being brave lets no one off the grave," wrote Philip Larkin in his poem *Aubade*, and while most people prefer not to think about such matters, pre-booking a burial plot guarantees a rural location.

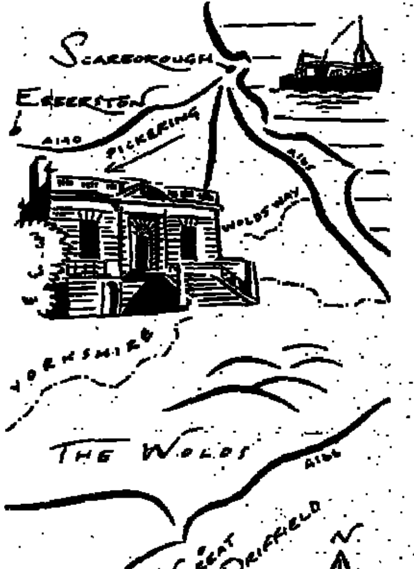
Arthur Tattersall has paid for a plot at Greenhaven next to his wife Gisela, who died two years ago, aged 82. His daughter Jill, from Newark, Nottinghamshire, says: "My mother was green-minded, loved gardening, nature and walking in the countryside and hated the vulgarity of a conventional funeral. As she got older she said she didn't want any fuss and wanted to be buried in a cardboard box."

Having spoken to Greenhaven, the Tattersalls decided on a simple funeral, with no religious service, but the opportunity to bury Gisela themselves and say their own thoughts by the grave. A cardboard coffin was used and they planted wild flowers as well as the hawthorn tree.

"Planting the tree was an enormous comfort to us," Ms Tattersall says. "We're not grave-visiting people and I would have felt very uncomfortable with a conventional grave and headstone. The tree represents something that goes on living."

- *The New Natural Death Handbook, £11.65 inc p&p, from the Natural Death Centre, 20 Heber Road, London NW2 6AA.*
- *AB Wildlife Trust, 7 Knox Road, Harrogate HG1 3EF.*

JANE SPENCER



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Rural recommendations

The place: St Mary's churchyard, Ebberston.

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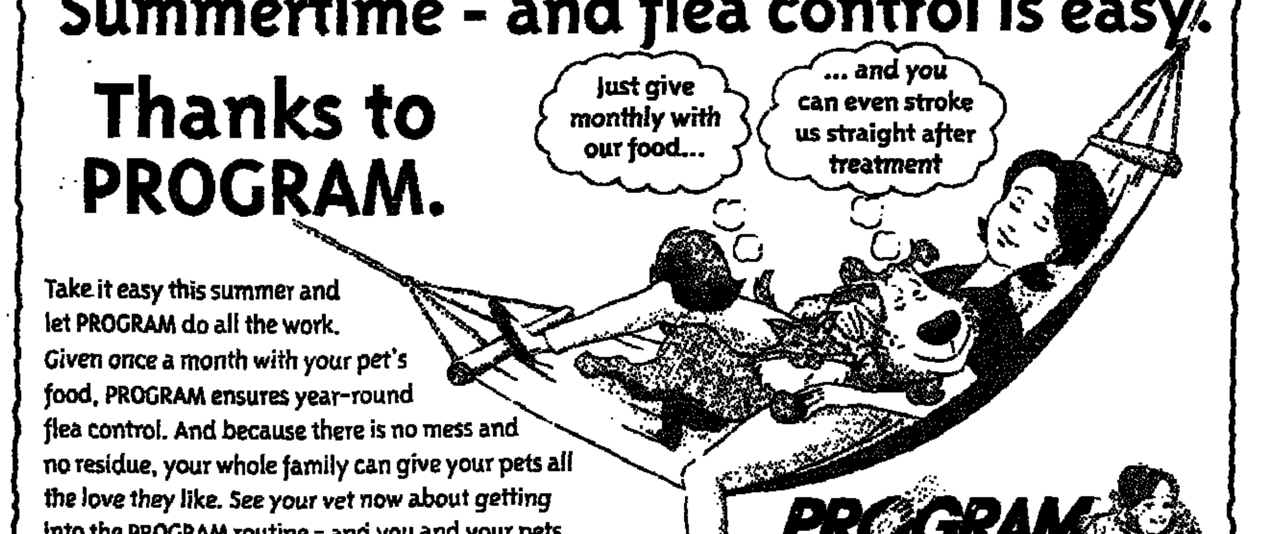
Historic interest: Ebberston Hall, designed and built in 1718 as a mini-stately home for William Thompson, then MP for Scarborough, by the great master of the English Palladian style, Colen Campbell. Now the home of Johnny and Jane de Wend Fenton, this refined and elegant building, with its large welcoming doorway flanked by Tuscan columns, actually presents us with Campbell in his least Palladian mood. Though it has many Italianate features, it is replete with the ambience of a northern European civilisation. Close by, enveloped in the grounds of the hall, stands the gem of St Mary's Church with its Norman nave and chancel besides many other interesting features dating from the later Middle Ages.

Best time to visit: An early summer's day, alive with the song of larks and caressed by southerly breezes off the Wolds — though being snowed in at the Hall as a guest in wintertime has undeniable charms.

OS reference: 892833 (Landranger 101).

Nearby: The Grapes inn, a hostelry renowned throughout the locality, not only for its magnificent ales and mouth-watering pub food, but for the atmosphere of conviviality which reigns within its portals at almost any time of the day or evening. Further off, there is Scarborough, for my money the most handsome watering place on the North Sea coast of England, with its splendid Victorian architecture, its wonderful beach and its quintessentially "seasidey" atmosphere.

PETER DAVIES



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travel

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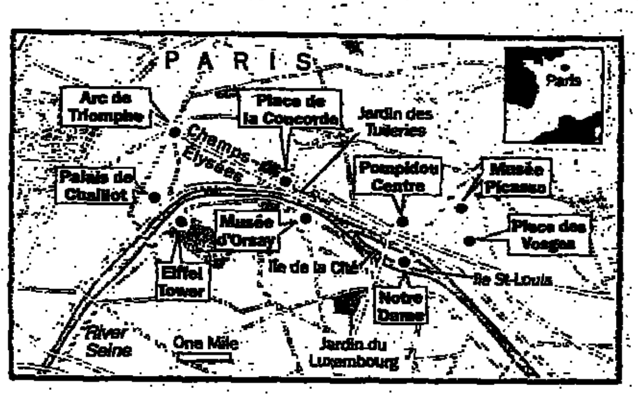
City break: Would three days be enough for **Rita Golden** to give her children an appreciation of the French capital?

All for the love of Paris



"Excusez-moi,
S'il vous plaît,
Move your butt
Get out my way."

The refrain, following me up the Champs Elysées, was not encouraging Anglo-French relations. But it had a certain tempo to it and was keeping us going. The Champs Elysées was hot, crowded and long. I had just lost one child into the Virgin Megastore, and my arm was being wrenched out of its socket by a little person delirious to disappear into the Disney shop. Was this the Paris I had planned?

My aim had been simple: not just to visit every Parisian landmark but to make them fall in love with Paris. The children had never really been to Paris before (the oldest had spent one day there three years ago with the school but only seemed to remember laughing at the French people), but now they were seven, 11 and 15. I deemed their legs long enough and their mother strong enough to explore what has to be the loveliest capital in Europe. We would go for three nights, after which I hoped they would know their Left Bank from their Right and their Montmartre from their Montparnasse.

Straightaway, there were problems. One was the age range: what delights a seven-year-old rarely rates as cool to a teenager. Plus, the 11-year-old was such a dreamer, I was going to have to be vigilant not to lose him under the first Citroën whizzing past Gare du Nord. To add to my problems, their father has vertigo. Anything tall had to be conquered before he joined us.

Food was another headache. The oldest and his father could spend hours devouring *fruits de mer*, *escargots* or *cuisses de grenouille*; the two little ones' eyes only really lit up when illuminated by the golden neon arches of McDonald's.

Then, how much could we cram into three days? I stirred up memories of half a dozen trips to Paris and then spent a long bonding session with a map of the city. The way seemed clear: we would explore the city in bursts of energy, hit only one art museum a day, stop at every merry-go-round we passed, and flop often at pavement cafés where they could practise their French by ordering their own coke and crepes.

We went on Eurostar. They were mad-keen to go on Eurostar. The thrill of plunging under the English Channel and coming up in France is still such a novelty, there's a definite pioneering spirit aboard Eurostar. Five languages buzzed around our heads, and we particularly liked the French lady behind us who spent the entire trip reprimanding her two little girls; each time they argued back in perfect English.

Three hours on a train, however, is a long time for children; cards, crayons, Walkmans and books are essential fodder. As is food. We packed a French picnic of baguettes, Pepperami, cheese, olives, apples and crisps. It got everyone in the right spirit and it was cheap.

At last: Gare du Nord. A taxi hurtled us across the city, over the Seine and lurched to a stop on the cobblestones outside our hotel.

The Hôtel du Jeu de Paume is a Parisian poem of a hotel, slap-bang in the middle of the Ile St-Louis, slap-bang in the middle of the Seine, slap-bang in the middle of Paris. Built on the site of the 17th-century royal tennis court for the game of Paume, it is a miracle mish-mash of ancient beams, scrubbed stone walls, hidden courtyards, modern art, glass balconies, a rickety glass lift, and a border collie called Enzo who spends his time pretending he's a doormat.

Within half-an-hour, we set off to pack in premier Paris essentials: the Eiffel Tower and the Arc de Triomphe, the two landmarks that even the youngest had requested.

Immediately we got side-tracked. The Ile St-Louis is enchanting. Straying down the Rue St-Louis en l'Ile, the narrow cobbled street outside our hotel, you could believe you were in Provence. Disney couldn't have done it better. Fish stalls, flower shops, patisseries, and cremeries selling hundreds of cheeses (noses were held), are wedged between art galleries, toy shops, and cafés. At the end of the street, the sunshine beckoned, and round tables and wicker chairs spilled out onto the pavements from the brasseries on either side. A clarinetist was playing jazz from the Pont St-Louis, a post-post-Impressionist was dabbing away at his easel, several couples were ardently kissing, and the Seine winked at us. The children joined the rest of the world there and just stared.

They would have stared all day. I prized them away and marched them north over Pont Marie where we tried our first faltering French sentences on the Métro clerk.

The pilgrimage to the Arc de Triomphe should proceed up the Champs Elysées, so we got off at Tuileries. The Tuileries Gardens are not so much garden as garden path. The white gravel dazzles your eyes and ruins your shoes. But here was space to run and let off steam, which went down well.

We crossed the Place de la Concorde to squeals of delight from our littlest. She had spied Carrousel Galophant, a musical wonder of Belle Epoque artistry. On she got.

We marched purposefully up the Champs Elysées. It is a beautiful avenue but goes on forever and the distractions are many — Hugo Boss, the Virgin Megastore, the Disney shop — and knees were buckling. We collapsed alongside the Paris chic at Le Fouquet's, and watched the cars and roller-bladers roar up and down instead.

Recharged, if impoverished by £4.50 cokes, we finally stood under the Arc de Triomphe. The children gazed solemnly at the flame of remembrance and then raced up the stone steps to the top. The view was spectacular and the 11-year-old had fun walking round and round the perimeter counting the roads radiating from under his feet. Beyond l'Etoile, the Eiffel Tower ... well, towered. We had to go.

We took the Métro to Trocadero. Here the sight of the Eiffel Tower as you swing round the Palais de Chaillot is awesome, and the question, "Do we go right to the top, Mummy?", was one more of concern than expectation. But a merry-go-round restored spirits, and the wonderfully-named Barbe à Papa (candy floss) restored sugar levels.

As feet were getting sore, we took the lifts. The view was spellbinding and the children felt the need to commemorate the event by buying tiny tacky replicas of Monsieur Eiffel's masterpiece.

Coming back to earth, it was early evening and exhaustion was taking over, but we hadn't eaten. Madame Prache from the hotel came to our rescue and recommended le Flore en l'Ile at the end of our street, a brasserie from where you can gaze on Notre Dame.

And it was in that small café on this certain day that my 11-year-old son ate snails. I repeat, snails. The waiter seemed oblivious of the cataclysmic event he was witnessing. Was this the child who once would only eat chicken nuggets if they were the right shape? Perhaps it was the gadgetry that inspired him: hold the shell tight with this contraption, then take this spindly fork and push and pull and twist and hey presto, one black gooey curly snail oozing with butter, parsley and garlic. Does this mean that he'll now eat mash potato?

Day Two: for starters, Parisian Routes to Heaven and Hell. We swung over the Pont St-Louis, the pedestrian bridge that connects Ile St-Louis to Ile de la Cité, and marvelled at the solemnity of Notre Dame. A choir was practising for a TV recording that night; Notre Dame must have some of the best acoustics in the world. The crowds, however, were fearsome. I clung onto the children.

Rather usefully my daughter needed the lavatory. We can now recommend the lavatories under Notre Dame. For 30p you get a spotless cabinet, your own washbasin and a mirror. Impressive.

Round the corner from Notre Dame is Sainte-Chapelle, the private chapel of Louis IX that is now worshipped for its glorious stained-glass windows. This was far less crowded. As we walked into the main nave, the sun streamed in, making even the agnostic gulp. The children were quite transfixed.

Around the next corner is the Conciergerie, that vast 14th-century fortress that looms over the Seine and looks like something out of central casting when lit up at night. Inside it's gloomy, cavernous and echoey. A video with English subtitles gives a raw history of how in this prison 2,700 poor, rich wretches from the French Revolution, including Marie-Antoinette, waited to hear their fate, before being trundled through the streets to the guillotine. It was scary stuff. My little girl left holding her neck.

Stomachs were being held too. We crossed Pont Neuf to La Samaritaine, the department store, and took the lift to the nineth floor and then climbed to the Terrasse. From here is one of the greatest views of Paris — and it's free.

If you grab a table on the west side you can see Sacre-Coeur, the Eiffel Tower, the gold dome of Invalides, the Seine curving through the city, straight up the Champs Elysées to Etoile, plus washing strung between chimneys.

Back on ground level, we stood awhile on the wooden footbridge, Pont des Arts, arguably the bridge over the Seine with the best views. Unbothered by traffic, here you can stand and dream. It even has benches if you have time to sit. We didn't.

Culture called. It was time to go to the Louvre. Pei's monstrous glass pyramid looks like the aliens landed right in the middle of the courtyard of the beautiful 16th-century façade of the Louvre. It fascinated them. The Louvre is seriously splendid — and huge. You have to decide which bit to do. Being the crass tourists they were, the children voted for the *Mona Lisa*. After walking past the gigantic canvasses of biblical scenes, the *Mona Lisa* seemed rather small and lost. The excitement around the picture, however, was palpable with students running towards it squealing. The kids went from side to side to see the enigmatic smile follow them and then unfortunately asked me why it is so famous.

Our art appreciation afternoon continued with the statues in the Jardin des Tuileries. "Why don't they have any clothes on?" asked my small daughter. "Don't stare," hissed her brother. She looked a bit chagrined and then whispered to me, "They're all different." Quite so. Between the statues and the clinging couples, she was getting a good biology lesson.

It was late afternoon and

Continued on page 18

TREVOR RAY HART

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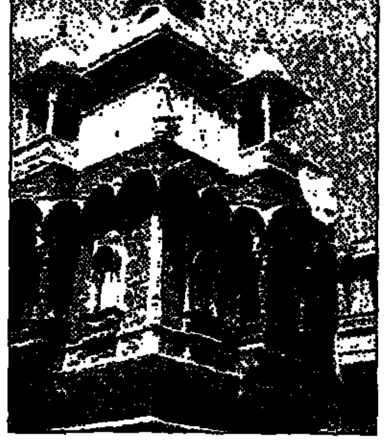
"When the children's legs threatened to give way after conquering the Louvre, we requisition one of the toy sailboats at the pond in the nearby Jardin des Tuileries"

PARIS WITH CHILDREN FACT FILE

- *The author* was assisted by her children: Max, 15, Gus, 11, and Merrow, seven.
- *Eurostar* (0345 303030) has adult fares from £89 to include a Saturday night stay. Children aged 4-11: £54. Youth Fare 12-25: £79. Under threes: free but no seat. Request table seats if available.
- Accommodation: Hôtel du Jeu de Paume, 54 Rue St-Louis-en-l'Ile, 75004 Paris (00 331 4326 1418). Rates per night for double room with bath start at £95. Breakfast £8 per person. In August, breakfast is included.
- A museum card, Carte *Musées et Monuments*, is available at museums and major Métro stations, at £7.50 for a day, £15 for three days.
- Métro: a carnet of ten tickets for £5. All journeys cost the same.
- We also played Monopoly with a board of Paris which not only increased their French vocabulary but also familiarised them with many street names and everyone got used to francs.
- Reading. The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Toto in Paris*, by Biddy Stevens (Little Brown, £3.50); *Time Out Paris* (Penguin, £9.99); *Degas and the Little Dancer*, by Laurence Anholt (Frances Lincoln, £8.99); *Paris Quest*, by Judy Allen (Red Fox, £2.99); *Where's Mama?/Ou est Maman?*, by Diane Goode (Red Fox, £3.99). *Madeleine*, by Ludwig Bemelmans (Scholastic Children's Books, £5.99).

Shock, horror: Gus tucks into a plate of snails



Many of our passengers are exceptionally well travelled and are constantly looking to us to conjure up some magical new destination or unique means of getting there. This coming Winter we have such a trip which will suit those travellers who appreciate the opportunity to get closer to a country, its people and culture. It is not a trip which offers endless visits to temples and museums, but rather a slow paced journey through rural Rajasthan, allowing time to absorb the colourful lifestyles and stark beauty of the countryside.

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South Africa: Eye to eye with an angry lion, **Sandy Gall** completely forgets what he is meant to do . . .

Eaten up with terror

TONY STONE

"Two nights earlier, we had watched a pride of lion, consisting of two lionesses and nine cubs, setting off at dusk on a hunting expedition"

It was just a walk through the South African bush one sunny morning. Before we started, Marius, the big young Afrikaans ranger who carried his heavy-calibre hunting rifle as if it was a peashooter, called us for a talk. "It's highly unlikely on our walk this morning that we will come face to face with any large animal," he began. No one looked desperately disappointed. "Virtually all animals, including elephant and lion, fear humans and will avoid them whenever possible". His baby blue eyes were reassuringly calm. "So we're unlikely to run into any trouble. But if we do, don't panic, above all don't *run*. Just stand still and do what I tell you. OK?"

Marius shouldered his rifle and set out along a sandy track with ten of us, men and women, mostly British, trooping along behind him. It was a beautiful late summer day in northern Transvaal, with fleecy white clouds sailing across the blue sky. We were in Inyati, part of the Sabie Sand Game Reserve, on the edge of the Kruger National Park; and for most of the party it was their first walking safari.

The grass was high — the rains had been exceptionally heavy — and as we came to a wet patch on the track, hundreds of tiny butterflies rose in a yellow cloud in front os us, dancing and twinkling in the sunlight. We stopped to admire them and Marius explained some intriguing facts about a particular type of grass.

Birdsong bubbled among the acacias, their delicate green foliage hiding vicious thorns. A hornbill, nicknamed a "flying banana" by George, another ranger, swooped across the bush in front of us, its huge beak making it look front-heavy.

We knew we were in a rich game area. The Kruger Park covers nearly 8,000 square miles — the size of Wales — and there is no fence between it and the adjoining private game reserves. Two nights earlier, we had watched a pride of lion, consisting of two lionesses and nine big cubs, setting off at dusk on a hunting expedition.

We followed them in safari vehicles for half an hour until we lost them in the bush. A pride of that size takes a lot of feeding. Luckily, there were hundreds of impala grazing almost everywhere you looked.The day before we had come across a family of cheetah, a mother and three full-grown cubs sunning themselves on a rock at the top of a small valley, their mask-like faces regally impassive. To me, they are the most beautiful of the predators.

"You notice how they all have their backs to us," George said after switching off the engine. "They know they're safe with us here, but cheetah are always on the lookout for lion or hyena. They chase them off their kills — very often the cheetah have hardly had time to start feeding when the lion and hyenas arrive. They'll kill them, too, if they get half a chance.

"You see the pattern of stripes on their faces? That means they're diurnal, not nocturnal like the cats." Splendidly immobile, the four cheetah turned their large golden eyes away from us, searching the landscape for prey, or a predator. I wondered aloud where the male was.

"Oh, once they've mated, they lose interest. They keep to themselves mostly."

Then, in the evening, we had been lucky enough to see a young leopard lying indolently on a patch of grass, oblivious to our presence.

All this went through my mind as we walked behind Marius for half an hour in a big circle, and I was just thinking how tame this was by comparison when he stopped and held up his hand. Then he pointed at the ground and all eyes followed his finger. In the middle of the track lay a forked twig.

"That means the pride is somewhere close," Marius said, keeping his voice down. "Wait here, while I have a look." He moved off the track into the bush remarkably quietly for such a big man. After he had gone about 30 yards he stopped, looked, and then slowly waved us forward, putting a finger to his lips. I was in the middle of the line and had tiptoed almost to where Marius was standing when I heard a very distinct growl. Perhaps two growls together. Marius raised his hand but we had all stopped in our tracks. The growl was unmistakably a lion's.

"The pride's just ahead of us, through the trees," Marius whispered. We were all tense now, breathing shallowly. I peered through the bush, and after five seconds could just make out the shape of possibly two or three lions lying in a clearing — but whether I was looking at the lionesses or the cubs, it was impossible to tell. "Just start moving back, very slowly," Marius breathed.

As I inched backwards, my gaze swung a few yards to the right. What I saw made me stand absolutely still. I found myself looking straight at a large male lion and he — head up, ears pricked, and perhaps only 50 yards away — was looking straight at me: eyeball to eyeball. I could not remember if I was supposed to make, or avoid eye contact, so I began to back away again until he was no longer visible, and I was no longer under his intense scrutiny.

It was a relief to reach the road. When we had all reassembled, Marius said: "You did exactly the right thing. That first growl was a warning. If we hadn't stopped the lionesses would have charged — because of the cubs — and Jonathan, the male lion, would almost certainly have joined in."

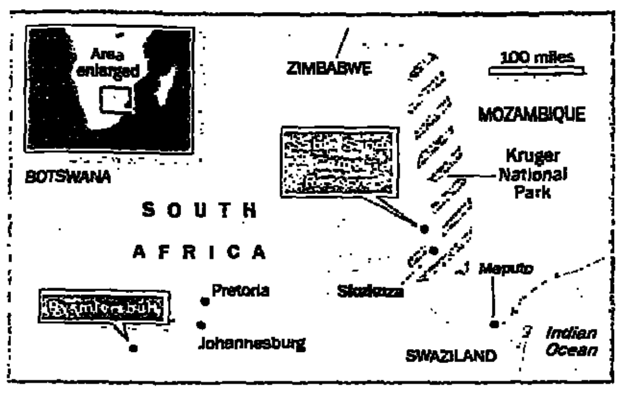
That's when I wondered what I would have done if he had charged. Stood rooted to the spot like a gibbering idiot? Closed my eyes? Or stared him down? I finished the walk in a kind of happy daze. There is nothing like danger overcome to elate the soul.

When we were back in camp I asked Marius what he would have done if one of the lions had charged.

"Well, I wouldn't have shot until the last moment. You probably only have time for one shot, anyway, and there's always a chance that the lion will abort the charge. But you never know with a lion as aggressive as Jonathan. He used to be young and aggressive. Now he's just aggressive." I asked why he was called Jonathan.

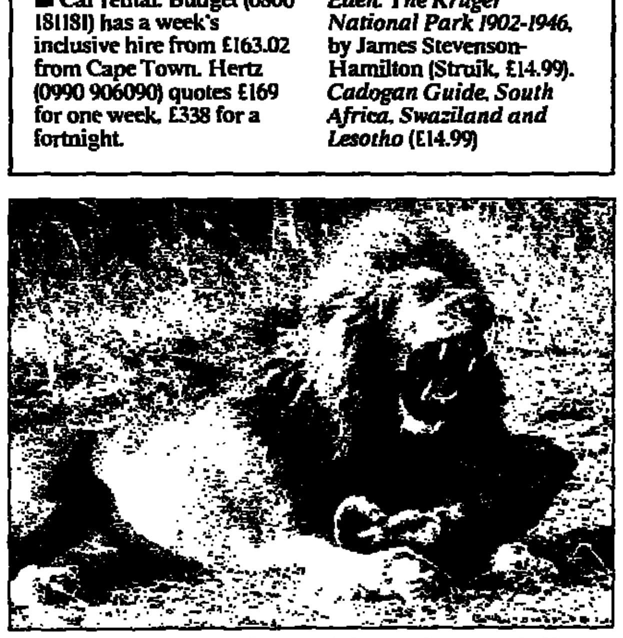
"After a researcher we have here called Jonathan Swart. He's doing a PhD on pangolins (scaly anteaters), which are nocturnal. One night he bumped into the pride. The male was so aggressive that Mr Swart had to climb an acacia, which is very prickly, in a hurry, leaving all his papers on the ground. He was up there all night. The lions wouldn't let him down. Next morning, when they had gone, he came down the tree to find his papers all chewed up. Ever since, the lion's been called Jonathan."

As I walked to my room I decided I didn't want to be a pangolin researcher after all.



SOUTH AFRICA FACT FILE

- **British Airways, Virgin Atlantic and South African Airways have scheduled flights to South Africa. SAA (0171-312 5000) has promotional fares of £412, including taxes, to Johannesburg; £452 to Cape Town. Tickets must be purchased before July 11 for travel by September 30. Otherwise, fares start at £829 return.**
- **Bluebird Holidays (0990 320000) has charter flights and holiday packages to Johannesburg and Cape Town from November 19-April 30, 1998. Flight prices start at £399 return.**
- **Car rental: Budget (0800 181181) has a week's inclusive hire from £163.02 from Cape Town. Hertz (0990 906090) quotes £169 for one week, £338 for a fortnight.**
- **The author stayed at Inyati Game Lodge (00 27 1149 30755) in the Sabie Sand Game Reserve, a private game reserve. SAA quotes £128 return from Johannesburg to Skukuza, then courtesy bus to Inyati.**
- **For further information: South African Tourism Board (0181-944 8080).**
- **Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *The Kruger National Park*, by Jane Carrathurs (University of Natal Press, £11.95). *In the Heart of the Country*, by J. M. Coetzee (Penguin, £5.99). *South African Eden: The Kruger National Park 1902-1946*, by James Stevenson-Hamilton (Struik, £14.99). *Cadogan Guide, South Africa, Swaziland and Lesotho* (£14.99)**


"I found myself looking straight at a large male lion"

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 23

SOXHLET
(b) Apparatus and method devised by F. S. Soxhlet (1848-1926) for continuous solvent extraction of a solid. *The Journal of Physiology*, 1899: "I used case in which had been extracted for a week in Soxhlet's apparatus." 1968, *Organic Synthesis*: "Barium Hydroxide is placed in the thimble of a soxhlet extractor over a flask of boiling Acetone."

CALABOOSE
(c) The name in New Orleans and adjacent parts of the Southern States for a common prison. Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, 1850: "Send them to the calaboose or some of the other places to be flogged."

CARACAL
(b) A feline animal found in northern Africa and south-western Asia. It belongs to the sub-genus of lynxes. Jardine, Felines, 1834: "The caracal has always been considered to be the lynx mentioned by the ancients as possessing such wonderful power of sight."

CUNETTE
(a) A trench sunk along the dry ditch or moat, serving as a drain and as an obstacle to the passage of the enemy or to persistent mining. 1763, *Chronicles Annual Register*: "The cunette of Dunkirk is entirely filled up excepting a trifling part for which there was no earth." Napier, The Peninsular War, 1828-40: "A cunette or second ditch had been dug at the bottom of the great ditch."

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. . . while **Dennis Rink** prospects for diamonds, and **Hilary Rubinstein** visits a heaven-scent hotel

Mine host who puts a sparkle in your eye

It was a scene that the young Cecil John Rhodes would have recognised. The barren veld is pockmarked by huge man-made gouges, leaving red scars across the landscape. Rickety, rusty machinery scrapes away layer after layer of gravel.

More cranking machinery washes the gravel, shakes and spins it, finally spitting it onto rough sorting tables, where hopeful hands carefully comb through the debris, searching eagerly for the glint of a rough diamond.

The Digger's Tour is not your regular visit to a mine, especially for visitors to Johannesburg, where everything is gold. This is diamond country, a place where you can expect to get your hands dirty, your shoes muddied.

Here, among machinery that dates back to the discovery of diamonds in the area, you have a chance to see and feel mining just as it was in the prospecting days of a century ago.

Visitors are allowed, in fact encouraged, to lend a hand in the sorting process.

Should you find that gleaming prize, the operators promise that they will replace it with a cut diamond of equivalent size. If you happen to miss that precious sparkler, never fear — the gravel is recycled and sorted by experts after the amateurs have left.

It is a day's visit to the past in more senses than one. In South Africa there are still vast areas where the hectic pace of modern life has yet to take hold, where good old-fashioned hospitality is usual.

Sifting gravel for diamonds

MINE OF INFORMATION

- The author travelled with Virgin Atlantic (01293 747747), which has daily flights from Heathrow to Johannesburg. Flight fares start at £411 if booked before July 11 for travel by September 30. Virgin Holidays (01293 617181) also has a week's flydrive from £759 a person.
- The Digger's Tour costs £23 for the day, including meal, but excluding transport. Telephone (00 27 11 462 3766).
- Goldmine tours: the favourite is Gold Reef City (00 27 11 496 1600), a replica mining town with hotels, shops, restaurants and theme park based around Shaft 14 of Crown Mines, just southwest of central Johannesburg. Visits offer a tour down a goldmine, plus gold pouring, at £5.30 per person, self-drive. Coach tours with guide are available through Springbok Atlas (00 27 11 396 1053) at £27 a person.
- Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Cry the Beloved Country*, by Alan Paton (Penguin, £6.99). *My Traitor's Heart*, by Rian Malan (Vintage, £7.99).

So, after a hard day at the diggings, visitors are served a traditional South African meal, along with a few beers and plenty of conversation.

There is *potjiekos* (meat and vegetables cooked in a pot over a fire), or a *braaivleis* (barbecue) that includes locally made *boerewors* (farmer's sausage), *mieliepap* (maize porridge) and *sous* (tomato and onion sauce).

The *boerewors* really is good — you can take that from a Transvaal-born lad. To round off the day, a choir from a nearby school entertains visitors with traditional songs and dancing.

Rysmiersbult is a 90-minute drive west of Johannesburg, through the endless maize fields running parallel to the Magaliesberg range just to the north.

Like much of the highveld, the road from Johannesburg seems to go on forever, but suddenly you are there, a small farm in a shallow valley, where the meanderings of the Moo River, now a mere *spruit* (stream), have, over the ages, exposed the alluvial diamonds.

We are far from the more famous and much richer Cullinan and Kimberley diamond diggings, but about 300,000 carats have been uncovered here in the past 70 years, enough to keep the diggers away from the nearby goldfields.

The Digger's Tour is run by Johan Raubenheimer Jnr, but it is *Oom* (Uncle) Raubie — Johan Raubenheimer Snr — who gives authenticity to the tour with his anecdotes and his wealth of knowledge about diamond mining. *Oom* Raubie, now in his mid-seventies, is full of stories and statistics, accumulated over a lifetime of prospecting.

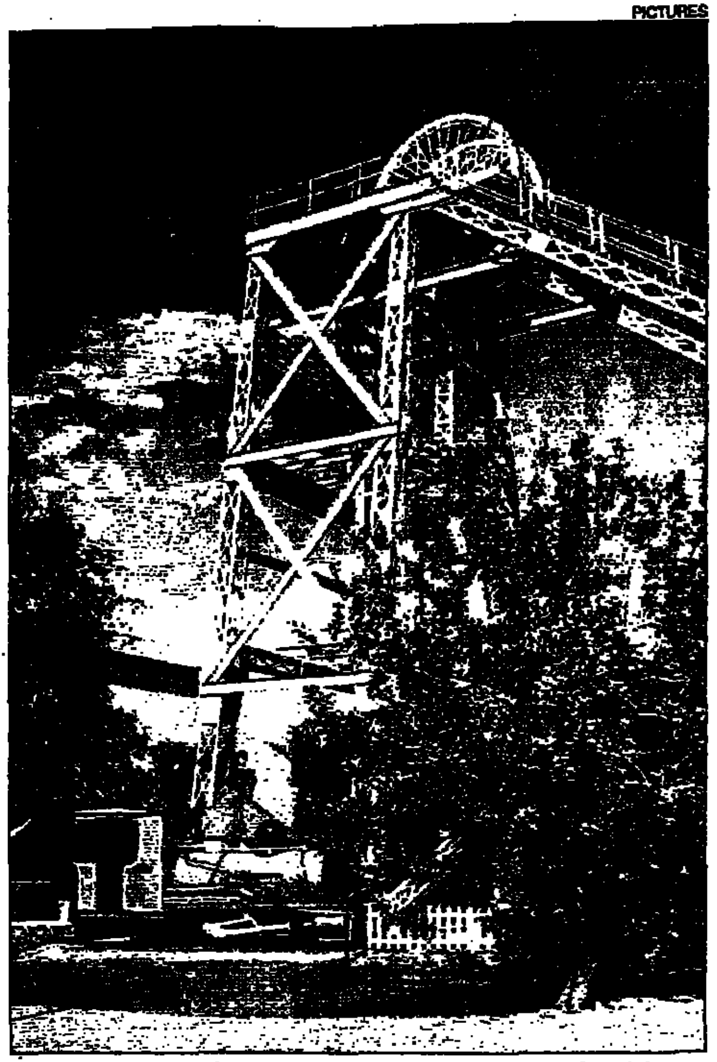
During our meal he talks about the size and colour of the diamonds found in the area, the theories of geology and the prospector's big question: just how do you find a diamond?

Most of all, he is full of tales about the characters who peopled this area a few generations ago, the fortunes made and lost, the smugglers, the security men and the customs officers.

The diggings on the farm are no longer run commercially, *Oom* Raubie explains, but are started up only for visitors. "We are not digging on a very big scale. We leave it, and when people come along we put it into operation and when we see that our meat is very low in the freezer, then we work so that we can go to buy some food and pay some debts and pay the customs."

The pace of life may have changed little for *Oom* Raubie, but the relentless pursuit of the precious stones continues close by. Before returning to Johannesburg, Mr Raubenheimer Jnr took us to a mine less than a mile from the farm, where amid the roar and rumble, huge machines move hundreds of tonnes of earth each day. I could see why *Oom* Raubie prefers the old way.

PICTURES



The Kimberley Diamond Mine Museum is a must for visitors

A royal welcome to the floral kingdom

The Grootbos has its own nature reserve with experts

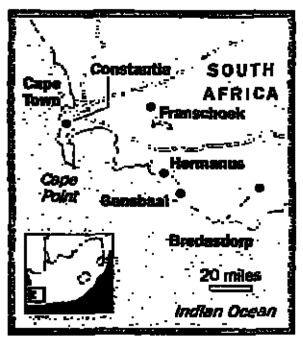
South Africa is a marvel of our time. Within a few years, it has overcome seemingly insurmountable problems, although many more remain to be confronted. The extra bonus of visiting South Africa now is that you have a ringside seat on history.

As a veteran collector of good hotels, I had an additional incentive for a visit. For a long time, I have been hearing about the Cape's wonderful hotels. Are they really as good, irrespective of their price brackets, as their European counterparts?

It is absurd to generalise, but in a fortnight we visited four hotels and scored four winners. And from all I heard, I am confident that I could have multiplied that list several times over if I had travelled further and stayed longer.

But I also had a stroke of luck, finding one hotel — Grootbos Lodge By the Sea, 100 miles east of Cape Town — that wasn't simply as good as the best in Europe, but a one-off, a place that offered something very special. It was like a lepidopterist who nets a rare butterfly, or a publisher's reader who finds a new *Lucky Jim*.

To appreciate what it has to offer, you need to know that the area between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, typified by Plettenberg Bay, has been classified by botanists as one of the world's six "floral kingdoms". The Cape kingdom, known as the *fynbos*, covers a relatively small percentage of the Earth's surface, but contains more than 8,500 different plant species. I had never heard of the *fynbos* before, but it has certainly registered with me now, thanks to Michael Lutzeyer, an ardent ecological enthusiast, who has created the Grootbos nature reserve. He bought 1,000 hectares of coastal plain and mountains a few years ago and has established a special hotel, with eight beautifully appointed chalets, overlooking a stirring sweep of the Indian Ocean.



As far as possible, these are furnished using only indigenous material, cunningly landscaped in the milkwood forest to provide maximum privacy.

There are open fireplaces in the lounges, and terraced balconies overlookng a stupendous arc of Walker Bay in the Indian Ocean from Danger Point in the east to Hermanus and the Kleinmond mountains in the west. On fine days you can see Cape Point 60 miles away.

The chalets are special in themselves, but what distinguishes Grootbos from other lovingly designed chalet-style hotels in a spectacular landscape is the presence, among the enthusiastic staff, of a resident botanist, marine biologist and ornithologist, engaged to help the visitor appreciate the many unique features of this area.

You do not need to take advantage of their services in walks, drives and ocean trips, but you would be foolish to miss the chance. Eighty-five species of birds have been identified on the nature reserve, including such rarities as the African Black Oystercatcher. Gorgeous proteas abound among the numerous species of flora. I would never describe myself as a serious nature-lover, but I found myself enthralled by the variety of natural life displayed. I had no idea, for instance, that I would find the life of the dung beetle so fascinating. The Grootbos — its slogan "luxury cottages in harmony with the ecology" — includes a daily morning delivery to your chalet of provisions (bread, yoghurt, meat, cheese, fruit, eggs — enough to provide both breakfast and lunch) and an excellent dinner in the lodge. The services of the specialist staff, boat and four-wheel drive trips, bicycles, horses and a swimming pool are all included in the basic price. Only wine costs extra. Single-night bookings are not accepted.

We had only two days available for our visit, but would willingly have stayed longer. I wish we could have visited between July and December and had a chance to see the Southern Right whale mating and calving just offshore. It is not often that you find a place to stay that stimulates the mind as much as it pampers the flesh.

● *Hilary Rubinstein is Editor of* The Good Hotel Guide.

WORLD PICTURES

The coastline between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth has been designated by botanists as a "floral kingdom", exemplified by Plettenberg Bay

FACT FILE

- The author stayed at Grootbos Lodge by the Sea (00 27 2834 40381), which charges £80 a person sharing, £100 single a night, to include breakfast, dinner, excursions and horse riding. Rates increase by 10-15 per cent in September. Transfers are available from Cape Town at £40 per person, £65 for groups.
- Other recommended hotels: Arniston Hotel (00 27 2847 59000). Daily B&B rates, £32-£46 a person. No children under 12. Close to the southern tip of South Africa, 140 miles from Cape Town, in a tiny fishing village. A modern hotel overlooking the Indian Ocean. Miles of empty sandy beaches with great surfing. Car essential. The 24 rooms are all furnished with style. Food and service also classy. Worth paying for sea-facing room (best of all, numbers 25 to 30). It is the most relaxing seaside hotel I have visited.
- Auberge Burgundy (00 27 2837 01201). B&B rates, £31-36 a person. If you have had enough of Arniston, try this modern hotel in smart, bustling Hermanus. Superior wineries are situated close by. It overlooks sea and adjoins best restaurant in town, the Burgundy. The 13 rooms are large, with superior facilities and designed with refined understatement. There are magnificent beaches to east and west. A bonus: between August and November you will have grandstand views close to shore of the Southern Right whale.
- L'Auberge du Quartier Francais (00 27 2187 62151). Daily B&B rates, £60 a person. One of the three famous wine areas of the Cape, Franschoek is also a mecca for gourmets. Splendid restaurants line the main street. The cooking at the Auberge is supremely good — classic Provençal cuisine enhanced by subtle Cape Malay flavours. Consists of a fine country house hotel, with 17 luxurious rooms and suites in small cottages surrounding a central pool.
- Constantia Uitsig (00 27 2179 46500). Daily rates £46 a person, room only. A private 200-acre wine farm in beautiful mountain landscape, blissful country-house style hotel, with 12 cottages, pool, and two fine restaurants, highly regarded by well-heeled gourmets of the locality. Ice-cold Atlantic and warm Indian Oceans both within a half-hour's drive; 15 minutes from central Cape Town. Spectacular area for walking, hiking and wine-tasting.

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Hungary: Both Buda and Pest have an illuminated elegance, while outside there's Bull's Blood and a torture museum

In the footsteps of Attila the Hun

Margitsziget, Margaret Island, is neither Buda nor Pest but an elegant park in the middle of the Danube. There is an old Hungarian saying, "Love begins and ends on Margitsziget", and romance is certainly in the air with waltz music emanating from speakers hidden in trees. Apart from *buses, and taxis bringing* guests to the two hotels on the island, motor vehicles are banned. Traffic consists of bicycles, pedal-cars and horse-drawn carriages. A café serves sundaes and knickerbocker glories, a man sells balloons: we seemed to have stepped back in time.

The two hotels supposedly cater for rich invalids. Hardly fitting that description, we nevertheless stayed at the Ramada Grand, the older of the two, in a vast suite with massive rosewood furniture; our son's cot was like a cage in some private menagerie. An *underground passage* links the Ramada Grand to the modern Thermal Hotel; the hotels share spa facilities. Beside a large swimming-pool, there are three smaller pools fed by hot springs, each at slightly different temperatures, as well as a sauna and a steam room. I understand that Carlos the Jackal used to stay at the Thermal Hotel.

Beside the spa there are two public pools on the island, the Hajos Alfred Nemzeti Sportuszoda, and Palatinus Strand, with segregated nudist terraces and a gay area. Some people swim in the river, then *sunbathe on the concrete* banks, looking as if they have been washed ashore.

Budapest, despite its beleaguered history, is a stylish city. At night it is stunningly illuminated, the buildings and monuments on both sides of the river shimmer and float like mirages. While Buda has the more obvious and older tourist attractions, I preferred Pest with its grand *fin-de-siècle* boulevards, now somewhat the worse for wear, and its handsome tenements, also in some disrepair. I kept seeing places that reminded me of Paris and later I discovered *that film crews come to Pest to* recreate the Paris of 1920s.

The New York Kavehaz, built in 1894 by Alajos Hauszmann, with its extraordinary baroque interior, all cherubs and twisting columns, marble and gold leaf, was once the centre of literary life in Pest; pencils and paper were provided free should the muse visit one over a demitasse. In 1956 a Soviet tank crashed into the front of the building and, 40 years later, the scaffolding *is still up. The interior has* been meticulously restored but the splendour is somehow lifeless, the handful of customers (attended by surly waiters) are more likely to be tourists than the literati.

Hungarian is a daunting language: Finno-Ugric, so the guidebooks say, part of the larger Altaic-Uralic group that includes Mongolian, Turkish and Finnish; its closest linguistic relatives are in northwest Siberia. I had assumed the Magyars originated on the Steppes (arriving in Europe with Attila the Hun) but academic opinion now has it that they were *just one of several* tribes enlisted by the great marauder on his campaigns, probably the nomadic descendants of Uighur Turks. In the 1930s a far-right political group propounded a Turko-Uralic master race with Hungary and Japan under one ethnic banner, while others have linked the Magyars to the Sumerians, the Incas and the Miwok Indians of California.

One Sunday morning I set off to District VIII (a part of town nicknamed Czikago because of its reputation for gang violence) where I had been told there was an interesting flea market. An English-speaking man on the tram told me he, too, was going to District VIII and whispered ominously about the Ukrainian mafia who control the sex industry in Budapest. On Jozsef Boulevard we passed a group of prostitutes standing about yawning. Russian girls, said the man, for local men, not tourists. We passed *szex* shops, *sztrip* joints and small repair shops; there was broken glass in the gutters; yellow grass growing through cracks in the pavement. *The man* was visiting his mother in an apartment building where the stucco had fallen away in great clumps. I soon found the market, Jozsefvarosi Piac. Security guards were frisking people *for guns but the crowd inside* the gates seemed placid enough. Despite its evident popularity, there was not much variety: stainless steel pots and pans, cassettes of dance music, T-shirts with nonsense messages, calculators and digital watches, pirated fashion items. The stallholders were mainly Chinese — I was surprised to discover a Chinese community *in Budapest — sometimes* Gypsies, the men short and dark and the women in headscarves and long skirts. There was nothing worth buying but I enjoyed the frantic atmosphere, the haggling and hawking.

That afternoon I climbed to the Tomb of Gul Baba, the northernmost Islamic shrine in Europe, at the top of the steepest street in Buda (badly-laid cobbles make the ascent even more arduous) where several Ottoman houses date from the period of Turkish rule in the 16th and 17th centuries. Gul Baba, "Father *of Roses*", was a *Dervish saint* and his tomb is a small domed building decorated with gifts from pilgrims. Outside the tomb a parched rose garden stood in need of deadheading. It all seemed rather neglected. There was nothing to explain why Gul Baba was so revered. But, after a few minutes on the steps in the sunshine I warmed to the serenity of the location high above the city.

We decided to vist Szeged, a city two hours south of Budapest by train, near the Romanian border. It was a pleasant journey across the great *plains, past fields of sweetcorn* and sunflowers. Szeged is on the banks of the River Tisza, somewhere beneath whose waters lies the body of Attila the Hun in a triple-layered coffin of gold, silver and lead. Attila died in AD 453 of a nosebleed while making love. The coffin presumably sank into the mud of the river bed: it has never been found.

What draws tourists to Szeged is the architecture. In March 1879 the Tisza burst its banks (a disaster referred to as "The Big Water") *destroying most* of the city. With international relief funds Szeged was rebuilt into a patchwork of squares and boulevards, mostly in the Hungarian Art Nouveau style. An entire town built in that style is like the set of some frothy operetta. You expect a line of can-can girls around the buttercup-yellow Town Hall with its frilly tower and icing-sugar embellishments. The Ungar-Mayer house in Dugonics Square is a voluptuous maharajah's palace, its cupola decorated with a tin frieze of life-size naked *women, all apparently portraits* of popular ballerinas.

Dom Square is a three-sided arcaded building housing the bishop's palace, a theological college and a students' dormitory, with each of its brick columns a different design, some square, some circular, some twisted. Inside the arcades are 80 statues and reliefs of prominent Hungarians. We were there at the wrong time to see the musical clock which, apparently, has mechanical professors dancing around Count Klebelsburg, a former rector of the college.

At the north end of the *square stands the Romanesque* Votive Church that commemorates the flood and its survivors. There is a mosaic of the Virgin Mary dressed as a Hungarian peasant. A little market was taking place behind the church selling embroidered tablecloths, tins of paprika, salamis and — strangely barbaric — cowhide rugs complete with their tails.

JOE ROBERTS

TONY STONE

Extraordinary baroque interior of the Café Hungaria in Budapest, all twisting columns, marble and gold leaf

Cosmopolitan cocktail

A short ride by train from the centre of Budapest, or an hour and a half upriver on the ferry, lies Szentendre, one of Hungary's most cosmopolitan villages and now home to an artists' colony of painters, sculptors and ceramists, whose works are displayed in the *many* galleries dotting the picturesque streets.

One of the best is the Margit Kovacs Museum, filled with the works of Hun*gary's best-known* ceramist. The "Montmartre of the Danube", as writer Claudio Magris described this Mediterranean-style riverside settlement, with its painted houses and cloistered gardens, is also home to a Serbian minority. This is a legacy of the Serbian defeat by the Ottomans at the battle of Kosovo in 1389, when refugees poured north to *avoid the advance of Islam.*

The Blagovestenska Orthodox Church, on the corner of Fo square, is lined with a series of evocative icons detailing Serbian history, while more light-hearted diversions are available at the engaging Wine Museum on Bogdanyi street and the open-air Szentendre Village Museum, just outside the town. One of Hungary's most popular *open-air cultural attractions,* the museum includes replicas of a village from Szabolc-Szatmar county in the eastern half of the country, and the neat and tidy dwellings of the ethnic German minority in the west.

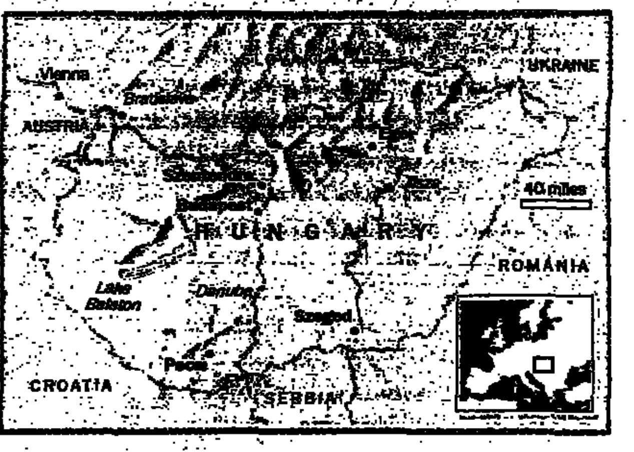
Visit Eger for its castle, its minaret and its wine, although not necessarily in that order. Just outside this pleasant city of baroque squares and cafés overlooking the River Eger is the Szepasszony Valley (valley of the beautiful women). Dozens of wine cellars are cut into the side of a gentle grassy slope. This is the *place to try Hungary's famous* Bikaver, Bull's Blood, as well as Medoc Noir, Muskotaly and Leaanyka, a herby, medium dry white.

Eger is also a place to taste the complicated cocktail that is Hungary's history. The top of the minaret, a relic of the years when Hungary was part of the Ottoman Empire, is an excellent place from which to view the town. Perched on a hill with commanding views of Eger is the castle, from where Magyars at first resisted and then eventually succumbed to the advancing Ottoman hordes. It includes an art gallery, the remains of the Gothic cathedral and a museum with Ottoman weapons as well as a gruesome museum of torture. There are underground *tours of the* castle's maze of cellars and pathways with lively guides who explain in detail how the battle for the castle was fought and how the siege progressed.

Hungary's finest Islamic monuments are to be found in Pecs, near the Croatian border. The city's Ottoman heritage gives Pecs a lighter, almost Mediterranean atmosphere, a southern air accentuated by its verdant sloping streets, agreeable climate and youthful student population. All the empires whose armies once *stomped across this* much contested slice of central Europe have left their mark here. There are Roman tombs on Apaca street, a 4th-century subterranean chapel on Szent Istvan square and part of the medieval town walls.

Apart from its rich cultural heritage, Pecs's main attraction is the Csontvary museum on Janus Pannonius street. Csontvary, whose works so impressed Picasso when he saw them exhibited in Paris, is one of the masters of Magyar art, and his works are one of many reasons to venture outside Budapest.

ADAM LEBOR



HUNGARY FACT FILE

■ Joe Roberts travelled with Thermalia Travel (0171-586 7725) which offers two four-star hotels on Margitszget: the Grand (previously the Ramada) and the Danubius Thermal. Prices at both start from £655 until August 30, thereafter £742, for a seven-night "Thermal Therapy" package including return flights from Heathrow on Malev, seven nights' half-board accommodation, a medical examination and a range of spa treatments. The 14-night "Complete Spa Package" starts from £1,178. Thermalia also features the Danubius Hotel Gellert, close to the city centre. Prices start from £438 for three nights, to include a Saturday.

■ *Tour operators featuring Hungary outside Budapest* include Intra Travel (0171-323 3305) and Danube Travel (0171-493 0263). An eight-day flydrive holiday with Intratravel costs from £265 per person. A week-long package including flights, three nights in Budapest and four in Eger costs from £395 per person.

■ Hungarian National Tourist Board (0171-823 1032).

■ Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Under The Frog*, by Tibor Fischer (Penguin, £6.99); *Budapest, A Critical Guide*, by Andras Torok (Pallas Athene, £9.95); *Between the Woods and the Water*, by Patrick Leigh Fermor (Penguin, £7.99); *Hungary, Travel Survival Kit* (Lonely Planet, £11.99).

'Napoleon would just have to wait'

Continued from page 15

legs had gone again. That was until they saw the toy sailboats whipping across the round pond before us. For £1.10 we requisitioned a boat and two long sticks, and the two smaller ones spent the next half hour careering round the pond, prodding their boat into sailing forth across the waves.

By now, their father was expected, so we just had time to walk across the grand Pont Alexand III and wave at Invalides. Napoleon would have to wait for the next visit.

Day Three: the Bohemian Left Bank, which tallied with our subversive adolescent who suggested we stayed in bed all day.

We took a taxi to the Musée d'Orsay and spent an entire morning admiring not only the wonderful Impressionist collection but also the old station building itself. My daughter had just read *Degas and the Little Dancer* and was delighted to find the ballerina statue with her turned-up nose. Their father wilted long before they did, and that was before they hit the gift shop and couldn't decide whether Monet or Seurat would adorn their bedrooom walls.

After the morning spent improving ourselves, we plonked down at Les Deux Magots on Saint-Germain, the old watering-hole of Hemingway and Sartre. The children weren't impressed. The waiter wasn't much impressed with us either. I don't think we were scenic enough for the front of his establishment.

Merrow, Max and Gus take in lunch overlooking the Seine

The Luxembourg Gardens were only a short stroll down a maze of narrow streets and the younger two swooped on the adventure playground where the swings and ropes wouldn't have disgraced the Territorial Army. You have to pay to get in but they loved it. "This is a cool place," I was told. Outside, there were ponies to ride under the *avenue of horse chestnut* trees and one of those merry-go-rounds where you collect rings on a stick.

By the evening, my husband decided Paris meant frog's legs. The Auberge de la Reine Blanche was just up our street, in more ways than one. The walls were festooned with doll's house furniture, and banknotes from a wealth of countries were pinned above the bar. Edith Piaf's *La Vie en Rose* rose from somewhere and we feasted on mussels, escargots and, yes, frog's legs.

Last Day: having packed our bags ready for the off, we struck out for the Right Bank and the Marais. It was a bright Sunday morning and, in cobbled squares, artists and antique dealers were setting up their stalls.

We headed down Rue de Birague into the Place des Vosges, the architectural beauty of Paris's first square being somewhat lost on the children. *They were*, however, intrigued by the way the leaves on the trees all round the square ended in sync like some large communal green skirt.

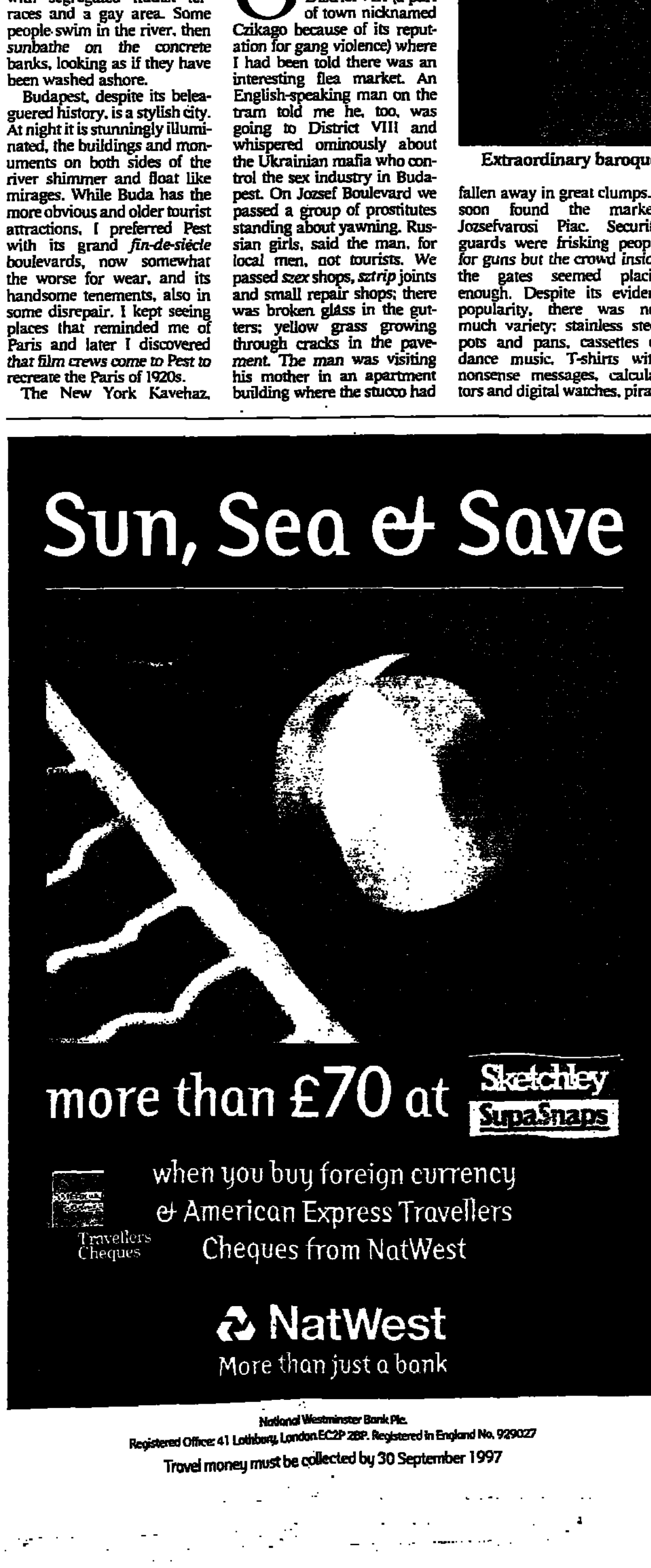
We then spent a happy hour in the Musée Picasso, with its secret alcoves and sculpture garden, where you can trace Picasso's artistic life from 14 years old into his nineties.

For our last lunch we moved out of old Paris and off to the multicolour tubes of the Georges Pompidou Centre. The kids were mesmerised by the cavorting fountains in the Fontaine Stravinski until hunger set in again. We gave in to popular demand: they went off to McDonald's and we sat in the Café Rive Droite next door.

The last-minute shopping trip down our street meant that Picasso and Pompidou had a lot to answer for. We were dragged into Pylones, trading in the ultra-modern and the bizarre, which is why we ended up with one purple plastic blow-up armchair, one purple blow-up bin, and a Bart Simpson chess-set.

So did they fall in love with Paris? They certainly clung tightly onto their posters and purchases, and even the interminable queue for taxis at Waterloo didn't seem to dampen their *joie de vivre*. In fact, all I could hear was:

"Excusez-moi
S'il vous plait
Move your butt
Get out my way"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Britain: A visit to a stately home in Leicestershire — and the chance to invite all your friends along too

MICHAEL POWELL

Present and correct: some of the staff who work at Stapleford Park, the 16th-century manor where the house party will be held

BECOME **LORD OF THE MANOR** FOR A NIGHT

Win a house party worth £25,000

IN NOVEMBER 1996, Stapleford Park opened as an Outpost of the legendary Carnegie Club at Skibo Castle in the Highlands of Scotland.

In the heart of the Leicestershire countryside, Stapleford Park is set in 500 acres of magnificent Capability Brown park and woodland. With its wide range of country pursuits and luxurious accommodation, Stapleford Park offers both guests and members the opportunity to enjoy a house party atmosphere in the spirit of those enjoyed by the flamboyant guests of Andrew Carnegie in the grand Edwardian era.

At home in the drawing room at Stapleford Park

The 51 bedrooms at Stapleford have each been individually designed by such luminaries as Mulberry, Designers Guild, Nina Campbell, Crabtree & Evelyn, and Tiffany.

With reception rooms that are furnished with antiques, paintings, prints and furniture as befitting one of England's finest stately homes, Stapleford Park maintains an elegant, relaxed setting and provides its guests with excellent hospitality and friendly service.

25 per cent off stays at Stapleford Park

THIS IS HOW you can win an exclusive House Party at Stapleford Park for you and your friends, up to a total of 80 (40 double rooms).

The programme for the House Party will be as follows:

Day 1

- *Guests arrive at Stapleford in time for lunch.*
- *Afternoon activities will include clay pigeon shooting, archery, tennis, mountain biking, horse riding, mini-golf, falconry and use of the Carnegie Clarins Spa. (NB: horse riding and Clarins beauty treatments are not included in the prize.)*
- *Champagne reception in the Saloon.*
- *Gala dinner in the Grand Hall of the house.*

Day 2

- *Breakfast in the Grinling Gibbons Dining Room.*
- *Mid-morning departure.*

Cosy corner of a comfortable bedroom

All accommodation, activities, food and wine are included in the prize.

In order to qualify for entry to the competition, *Times* readers must stay at Stapleford Park during the period August 1 to November 30, 1997. Each night at Stapleford Park will qualify for entry into the prize dra…

As an exclusive introduction to Stapleford Park following a refurbishment, including the Carnegie Clarins Spa, the following benefit will be available to *Times* readers for this period.

Between August 1 and November 30, a 25 per cent reduction on accommodation rates and dinner (excluding drinks) will be accorded to *Times* readers on submission of this article with their letter confirming the reservation. **This offer is valid for stays of two nights or more and is subject to availability.** Room prices start from £165 plus VAT before discounts. For reservations please call 01572 787522 and mention the *Times* offer.

The prize draw will take place on December 2, 1997, and the prize may be taken between January 3 and March 31, 1998, excluding Friday and Saturday nights, and is subject to availability.

The draw is open to readers who stay at Stapleford Park for at least one night (two nights if using the 25 per cent discount offer) between Aug 1-Nov 30, 1997. The draw will take place on Dec 2, 1997. The prize may be taken between Jan 3-Mar 31, 1998, excluding Friday and Saturday nights, subject to availability. TNL competition rules apply. This cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

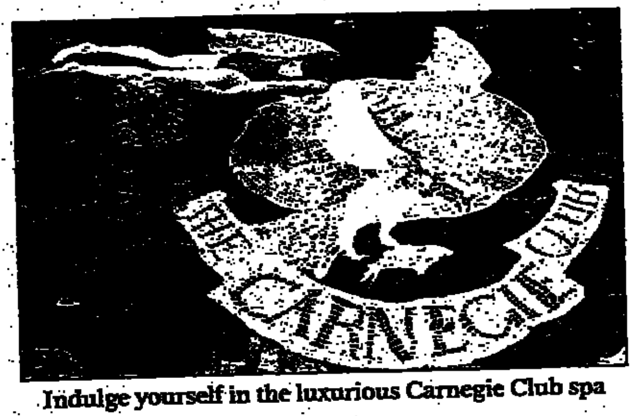
Slow life – with a flagon of sloe gin

If Stapleford Park has a role in life it is to make everywhere else look scruffier by comparison. It does this very well. Those who visit look all about them, admire the decor and resolve that when they get home they will buy new lampshades, give the bathroom a good scrubbing and remove that old bone from the dog basket and the squashed After Eight mint from the back of the bookshelf.

This 16th-century manor house in 500 acres of Leicestershire countryside is intimidating at first, what with the smart cars outside, including a vintage Rolls-Royce. Ours was one of the few that did not have a FRED1 or BILL2 registration plate, so we parked discreetly. I resolved to keep my jacket on in case anyone should see the Marks & Spencer label, but I need not have worried. The staff, most of whom are local, were delightfully unsnooty. They were all attired in plus fours, tweed waistcoats and shirts printed with hunting insignia and looked a bit like a feature on what well-dressed gillies are wearing this season.

The guests were a surprise, too. I had expected them to be affluent octogenarians but most were young(ish) and generally like us. One woman even wore the same M&S jacket as me. Some people had brought their dogs but we had left our Jack Russell behind in case she disgraced us.

We were led past oak panelling, tapestries and Venetian glass mirrors to our room — cunningly named "Lakeview" because it overlooked the lake — which was pretty. There were also some nice touches — chocolate chip biscuits, a flask of chilled water and a flagon of sloe gin which we immediately drank. We looked at the options for the afternoon — carriage driving, hot-air ballooning, pheasant shooting etc — but decided instead to collapse on the sunbeds with a gentle swim afterwards.



Indulge yourself in the luxurious Carnegie Club spa

STAPLEFORD FACT FILE

■ **Stapleford Park, near Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 2EF (01572 787522). Rooms cost from £165 a night for two people. A Clarins facial is £46 and a Falconer's Walk costs £30 per person.**

■ **Some forthcoming Stapleford events: Tennis Challenge, July 26-27. Gardens open to the public on August 2, plus open-air evening concert by Esterhazy Orchestra. Afternoon concert, August 10, by Pasadena Roof Orchestra.**

Stapleford used to be part of the estates of John O'Gaunt but the present house dates from the 16th century and was owned over the centuries by earls and lords that I had never heard of until 1996 when it was bought by Peter de Savary, whom I had.

A house like this inevitably sets you wondering about the owner. How, for instance, does Mr de Savary (or PDS as his staff call him in reverent tones) pay for it all? Does his bank manager send him nasty letters like mine does to me? We had two hours before dinner so I sat in the Jacuzzi doing sums. Being a committed shopper, I knew the hanging lanterns in the pool area must have cost at least £500 each and the blue mosaic tiles about £1 each and there are squillions of them and suddenly I realised why a ham sandwich here costs £7.

Then I was persuaded to have a Clarins facial so I lay on a bed and listened to soothing music while a charming lady called Sally rubbed lotions into my tired chops for 45 minutes until I was snoring.

Dinner in the Grinling Gibbons dining room was wonderful. I had white wine with the smoked salmon, red wine with the guinea fowl and I can't remember what happened after that except there was a hot water bottle in the bed (with a tartan cover) and my shoes had been thoughtfully stuffed with tissue. I blame the sloe gin but when I tried to press Channel 4 on the remote control I found I had dialled my stepdaughter's recall number on the mobile telephone instead. She told me to pull myself together.

The next day we listened to the seriously good jazz quartet in the saloon and then ventured into nearby Melton Mowbray. Every other shop was selling the celebrated Melton Mowbray pork pies but we asked two people in the street to recommend one and they both said we couldn't go wrong with Ye Olde Pork Pie Shoppe. The boatered serving girls were offering what they called samples but which were actually great wedges of crisply-crusted heaven. We ate three each and bought enough pies to sink a battleship.

Then it was back to Stapleford for a falconry lesson. Stapleford has two falconers, one named Peter, the other named Paul, although I was the only person who thought this amusing. Paul showed us his birds — falcons, hawks, an eagle and an owl — sitting on their perches in the gardens wearing furious expressions. He gave us leather gauntlets to protect us against the talons that can crush a rabbit's skull and we set off with a hawk called Arrow for a Falconer's Walk. This involved us walking around the grounds while Arrow flew from tree to tree at a discreet distance and dropped in occasionally for some chopped chicken which we held aloft.

At one point he flew into some nearby bushes. "I think he's seen something," said Paul with masterly understatement as a pheasant emerged from the undergrowth, clucking in outrage and only just escaped with his life if not his dignity. Paul pointed out that Arrow weighed 1lb 9oz while the portly pheasant must have weighed about 5lb. I asked Paul if the birds often attacked creatures larger than themselves. "Well, we have had a bit of a problem with Jack Russells," he said.

After a vast lunch I wandered through the Great Hall and gazed out of the window, where the view probably has not changed much since the days of John O'Gaunt, upset to think I would never see him cantering across the rolling acres in his black armour, or throw my scarf in the air so knights could joust over it, and how crushingly unfair life is. But then John O'Gaunt never enjoyed the blue-mosaic swimming pool, the jazz quartet, or nodded off with Sally rubbing elixir into his face.

MARY GOLD

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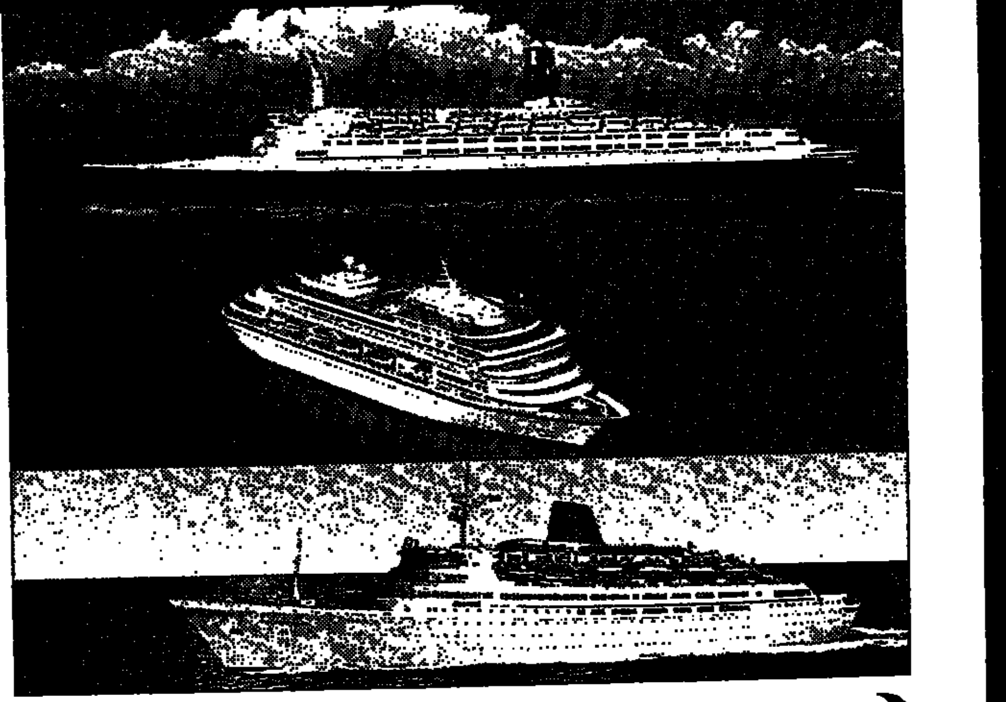

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AROUND THE WORLD: A WEEKEND GUIDE

Laos leaves its door ajar

HUNDREDS of man-sized pots are scattered over the so-called Plain of Jars surrounding Phonsawan in Laos; their use and origins are still something of a mystery.

Long Haul specialist Bales Tours (01306 741526) has put together a ten-day holiday to explore one of the least known Indo-Chinese countries which only opened its doors to visitors in 1992. The itinerary includes three nights in the capital Vientiane, three nights in world heritage site Luang Prabang to visit its temples and waterfalls, and two nights in Phonsawan. The price is £1,435 for return flights via Bangkok, full board in Laos and excursions.

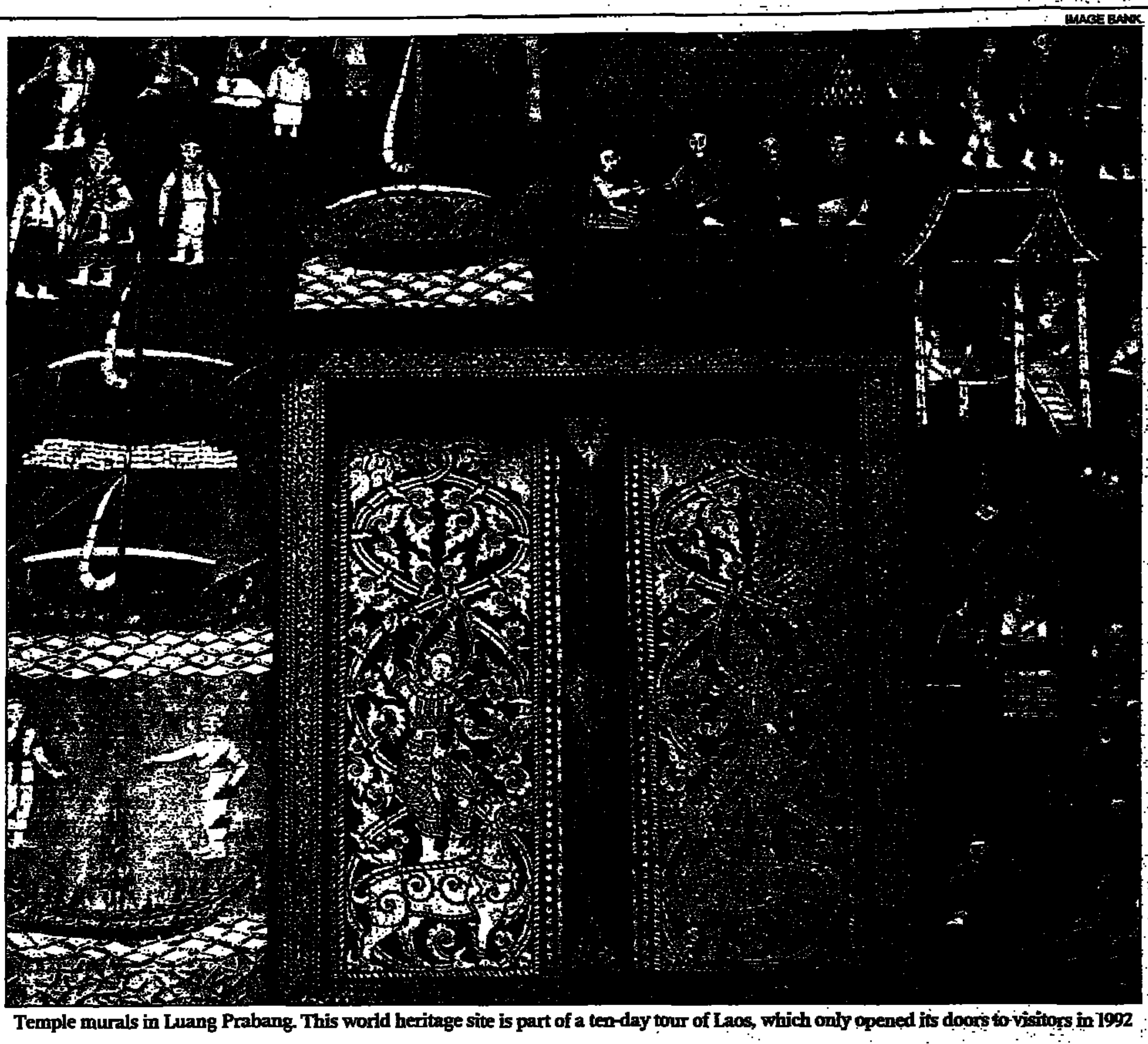
IMAGE BANK

Temple murals in Luang Prabang. This world heritage site is part of a ten-day tour of Laos, which only opened its doors to visitors in 1992

New look at the Louvre

WITH the overcrowding and horrors of the old Louvre now become a thing of the past, art specialist Prospect Tours (0181-995 2163) is offering a two-night trip to the *"New Grand Louvre"* from November, accompanied by specialist guides.

In the new Richelieu Wing, American architect I. M. Pei has created a hall which reproduces the scale of the original setting in the Palace du Luxembourg of the series of paintings by Rubens on the life of Marie de Medicis. A room has been created to display Poussin's Seasons, and another one has been made for the smaller works of Holbein and Dürer.

The price of £253 covers travel by Eurostar, two nights B&B accommodation, a one-day museum pass, a museum tour and also a carnet of Métro tickets.

Footpath repair

YOU can learn skills such as drystone walling, charcoal making, footpath repair and fencing on the National Trust's working holidays which take place around Britain this summer. Projects include building a cycle path and repairing footpaths in Co Durham with volunteers living in a tented camp in the grounds of a lighthouse. More footpath restoration is taking place on some of the higher peaks of Snowdonia, staying in a mountain rescue base.

The holidays cost from £20 for a short break to £50 for a week's project. For a copy of the National Trust Working Holidays brochure call 0891 517751 (50p a minute).

■ **THE New York Convention & Visitors Bureau is offering a hotel booking service for the peak September 1-December 31 season. Accommodation in all price ranges will be on offer. The booking service is free, but not the telephone call from this country (001 212 582 3352). Bookings from the United States are toll-free on 1 800 846 766.**

Sweet Georgia

USING the new British Mediterranean airline direct flights to Tbilisi, Regent Holidays of Bristol (0117-921 1711) has come up with an unusual weekend break: you explore the churches, synagogues and mosques in the Georgian capital, buy souvenirs in the market which sells everything from treadless tyres to fine silverwork, travel the Great Military Highway to see the 6th-century Byzantine hilltop church *at Djzhvari, and visit Gori,* Stalin's birthplace, where his former house is now a museum.

Expect basic accommodation, reasonable food (though not for vegetarians), and excellent wine and brandy. The three-night B&B break, including flights, costs from £555.

Historic USA

A SERIES of imaginative themed itineraries from North American Highways (01902 851138), tailor-made for independent motorists, link history and culture with accommodation in old inns and wilderness lodges.

On an 18-night Planters of *Virginia Tour (£712-£899) you visit* the homes of wealthy patricians — Washington's Mount Vernon and Jefferson's Monticello are two of them — with stops at Civil War battlefields and other sites en route.

The Watermen of Maryland Tour (£584-£852 for 16 nights) looks at how the other half lived: the tough independent eastern seaboard "cowboys", the local skipjack fishermen. The tour includes a stay in the Chesapeake Wood Duck Inn on Tilghman Island, home of the last remaining antique skipjack fleet.

Prices do not include flights which can be arranged. Car hire is an additional £258 per week.

JILL CRAWSHAW'S TRAVEL TIPS

■ **ALTHOUGH the price of most peak season accommodation can soar in beach resorts, Italian city stays can often be cheaper than usual. Accommodation Line (0171-409 1343), the firm that specialises in family-run Italian pensions, small hotels and B&Bs (with some in the £20-£25 per person per night range), is offering an extra night free for bookings of two or more nights until the end o August. The cities included are Rome, Venice, Florence, Bologna and Turin. Room Service (0171-636 6888), another Italian specialist, has summer savings in Florence, Venice, Rome, Milan, Bologna and Naples from July 15-August 31.**

Good guides

MY admiration for the Rough Guides was given a huge boost last year when I received a panic message that my peripatetic gap year son was in hospital "in Bali". While other leads to his whereabouts got nowhere, the hospital information in *Bali and Lombok* Rough Guides (£8.99) was spot on.

A number of the more popular European destinations have been revised this year. *The Rough Guide to France* (£12.99) reveals the literary bent of its authors Tim Salmon and Kate Baillie — who else knew that novelist Guy de Maupassant sailed his yacht into the port during his final high-life binge before the onset of syphilitic insanity? *The Rough Guide to Corsica* (£9.99) is co-written by David Abram, who has also written the *Rough Guide to Goa* (£9.99).

New or revised editions of the guides are also available for *Spain* (£11.99), *Barcelona* (£8.99), *Tuscany and Umbria* (£10.99), *Washington DC* (£8.99) and *Turkey* (£12.99).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

High cost when you phone home

From: Robert Walls, University of London:

SOME weeks ago, you reported on visitors to Eastern Europe who were shocked to be charged several hundred pounds for a simple meal. I have discovered a Cotswold hotel which has a not too dissimilar attitude to the cost of telephone calls.

I have stayed in the Dormy House, near Broadway, many times and have often recommended it to friends in Japan and Taiwan. On a recent visit, I made a ten minute, ten second call to Taiwan which, according to BT, would normally cost in the region of £9.20. But when I received my bill, I was stunned to see a charge of £46.20, a mark up of just over 400 per cent.

When I queried this, I was told in a rather supercilious way that "international calls are expensive". I have since been on a trip to Kyoto, Japan, where, for a five-minute call to the UK, I was charged just £2.50.

☐ A spokeswoman for the Dormy said: "Our calls are charged at 22p per unit, which is displayed on a tag attached to the receiver. We are very competitive with other hotels in the area and, in many cases, are lower. We also have a BT payphone in the hotel."

From: John Smith, Hoverspeed:

THE article "Calais revamp brings chaos" (June 12) claimed that hovercraft take 90 minutes from Dover to Calais. This is incorrect. The crossing time is just 35 minutes, with a motorway-to-motorway journey time of about 50 minutes — ten minutes quicker than Le Shuttle.

● *We welcome letters on holiday travel. Send them to Letters, Travel Department,* The Times, *1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, or fax 0171-782 5124.*

Beduin and breakfast

Libby Purves tries a diving holiday on the Egyptian coast

Weeks later, there is still fine sand in my purse and the pockets of my dressing-gown. Also in my sponge bag, toothpaste lid and the alarm clock. It trickles from the oddest places without warning.

Not that the sand of the southern Sinai desert is particularly fine: it has more of a bouldery, building-site quality to it, especially inside your shoes. The reason for the *finely filtered quality of the* stuff I brought home is that it was efficiently sieved: it blew in through the gaps in our hut's bamboo sides. The northern gale made our clothes, hanging on nails, dance and kick the night away in a windy ballet, and drove us shuddering under the heavy Bedu blanket.

In short, it was wonderful. My scuba-addicted young son and I chose this particular package in Egypt because it was the cheapest way to be right on a beach with a reef: £281 a head including tacky charter flight, hut just big enough for a mattress, one clean sheet, two moulting pillows and all the goat's cheese *rolls you can eat at breakfast.*

"Beduin and breakfast," he said a little faintly when we saw it: and indeed Shark's Bay Camp, north of the port and resort of Sharm el Sheikh and Na'ama, is owned and run by Sheikh Embarak. Local Beduin lounge about on its carpeted sand at night by the smouldering campfire as freely as foreign backpackers.

The company was eclectic: not all divers, although a polyglot assortment joined us on rough, exhilarating, sometimes overnight dive boat journeys down to the Ras Mohammed underwater reserve and round into the Gulf of Suez to explore the wreck of the Thistlegorm.

There was Paul, a Californian balloon pilot on his way back from Kenya and trying to avoid tourist spots because he works in one, a wandering bemused Spaniard called Josef, and a number of huge Czech lads who had come overland. One night on the boat after Mohammed's fine *tuna supper they were bran*dishing their duty-free and demonstrating their superb grasp of English. "Famous Grouse!" said one. "Johnny Walker!" riposted another.

Josef the Spaniard rushed to join in. "Kentucky Fried Cheeken!" he cried. There was a silence.

They all dived under the commendably fierce control of the instructor Pino, who brooks no sand-stirring, coral-bashing or fish-feeding. I snorkelled, sometimes raising the top of my mask above water to enjoy the contrast between the desolation of the mountains and the fertile brightness of coral below.

Best of all, though, was the sense of tourist innocence. The bed might be full of sand but our camp blended sweetly into the ancient coast: a few arches, low huts, shabby striped tents, a shower block fiercely urging water conservation, one Beduin tent for a restaurant and another in which an elderly *man of immense dignity sold* striped druggets "very cheap". For miles to the south and north of this simplicity we saw a coast being enthusiastically ruined by international holiday villages, tacky mock-Moorish hotels and rip-off souvenir stalls. By happy chance, our cheap option turned out to be the most precious. Before settling down *to each night's sandswept* sleep, we could stand by our hut and see comet Hale Bopp and a million stars.

It felt very like a farewell; and indeed each morning brought the bleep and rumble of the diggers ever closer.

● *Regal Holidays (01353 778096) organises diving holidays in Sharm el Sheikh from £299 a week. Learn to dive courses cost from £150.*

PICTURES

Local Beduin lounge about on the carpeted sand

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Jon Ashworth visits the Viet Cong tunnels of Cu Chi

In the killing zone

GUNFIRE CRACKLED in the humid air as we picked our way through the trees. Huge craters appeared, the ground devastated by tonnes of high explosive, and a US Army helicopter beckoned, *squatting* in silence like some brooding beetle. One could feel the weight of invisible eyes, watching.

Not Saigon, 1969, but Ho Chi Minh City. Twenty miles out from the Tan Son Nhut airbase, now an international airport, the killing zone of Cu Chi has been transformed into one of the world's most chilling tourist attractions. The B52s have given way to jets, and the craters are tree-lined and choked with grass.

The Bell HU-1 Iroquois on the edge of the clearing is a brown skeleton, stripped bare, locust-like. The gunshots come from a firing range, where visitors can take their pick of automatic weapons, blasting away like *Rambo* at a cost of a dollar a bullet. And the eyes belong to the souvenir vendors, eager to weigh you down with polished shell-casings, and counterfeit GI lighters.

In ten years of war, the Americans probably dropped more high explosive on Cu Chi than any other corner of Vietnam. Here, alarmingly close to Saigon, lay the Cu Chi tunnels — more than 100 miles of underground passages and chambers, carved by hand using rudimentary tools, and stretching across the border into Cambodia. Today, portions of the tunnels have been *opened up, providing a fasci*nating insight into the hell that was Vietnam.

Close look at the passages

Returning Vets have not taken kindly to an introductory film, heavy in praise for the patriots who won medals for "killing Americans". Grim-faced girls in army uniform speak of courage and resolve during the "American War". The tunnels themselves are gruelling. Visitors are invited to shuffle through pitch darkness, drenched in sweat from the humidity.

Chambers have been made into field hospitals and kitchens, right under the nose of patrolling US infantrymen. Tourists can inspect the command centre from which Viet Cong commanders launched the Tet Offensive of 1969. Pits filled with spikes lie at the tunnel entrances, ready to snare intruders.

Partisans tended paddy fields by night, retreating underground before daybreak brought a fresh onslaught of bombs and missiles. The soil of Cu Chi is as hard as iron, and the tunnels withstood the severest of punishment.

Perhaps most disconcerting of all is the firing range. Soldiers who perhaps spent years in the jungle now hand round AK-47s and M-16s, using up clips abandoned by the Americans after the fall of Saigon. One Japanese visitor is rumoured to have spent $1,000 on ammunition.

Posing by the shattered Huey, with weapon in hand, and a Viet Cong bandanna round your neck, one can only reflect on the ironies of this terrible war.

● *Thai Airways (0171-499 9113, London, or 0161-831 7861, Manchester) flies daily non-stop from London to Bangkok, with onward daily connections to Ho Chi Minh. Flights from Bangkok to Hanoi operate every day except Thursday and Sunday. Return fares from £821, excluding taxes.*

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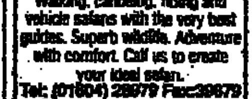

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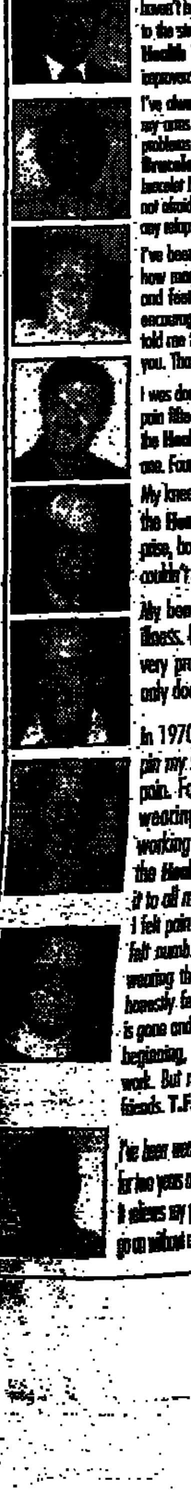


I was suffering from pains in the back and rheumatism of the spine. Also I had a terrible pain in my shoulder due to an accident. Well, ever since I've been wearing the **Health Bracelet** I haven't had any back or shoulder pain. I also suffered from intermittent stomach aches due to the stress and the pain. Now I sleep very well and no longer have stomach aches. The **Health Bracelet** works really fast; after having worn it for only two months, I felt an improvement. I've been wearing it for two years now and feel very good. Thank you. **R.D.**

I've always worked hard on our farm; over the years, I'd developed so much tension in my arms and shoulders that I couldn't sleep because of the pain. I also started having problems getting dressed and functioning normally. After seeing an ad about the **Health Bracelet**, I decided to order one, but I really didn't believe in it. Well, the help this bracelet brought me is unbelievable. I don't feel pain anymore; I sleep very well; and I'm not afraid to work. I've been wearing the Bracelet for over three years, and I haven't had any relapses. **C.B.**

I've been wearing the **Health Bracelet** for four years now, and still can't get over how many changes have occurred. The pain I had from the rheumatism in my legs and feet also disappeared. I was so satisfied with the **Health Bracelet** that I encouraged a friend who was suffering from severe rheumatic pain to buy it. She told me the **Health Bracelet** relieved much of her pain. I will always be grateful to you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. **G.L.**

I was doubtful at first, but then I told myself I would try it. I had surgery for lower back pain fifteen years ago during which I went through a great deal of suffering. Thanks to the **Health Bracelet**, I am no longer in pain. It's wonderful. I recommend it to everyone. Four of my friends also bought one and are very satisfied with it. Thank you. **Y.L.**

My knees were swollen and I could barely walk. I saw an ad about how effective the **Health Bracelet** was, so I ordered one. After some time, to my great surprise, both the pain and the swelling disappeared. My circulation also improved. I couldn't do without my **Health Bracelet** anymore; I strongly recommend it. **H.T.**

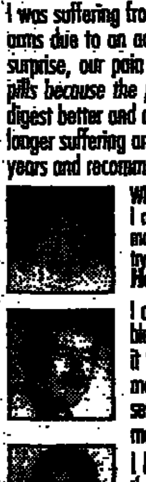
My bones and my circulation were bad because I couldn't exercise due to illness. I am now 58 years old. I've had three **Health Bracelets** so far. I am very proud of it and I strongly recommend the Bracelet to everyone. Not only does it make me feel better, but it also looks nice. **H.T.**

In 1970, I broke a shoulder in a car accident. All that doctors could do was pin my shoulder. I couldn't work with that arm anymore; I was in so much pain. For the past 7 years, I've been wearing the **Health Bracelet** and working with less pain. I never take the **Health Bracelet** off. I recommend it to all my friends. **R.L.M.**

I felt pain in my legs, my hands and feet felt numb. For the past year, I've been wearing the **Health Bracelet** and I can honestly feel a difference; the numbness is gone and my circulation is better. In the beginning, I really didn't think it could work. But now I recommend it to all my friends. **T.F.**

I've been wearing the **Health Bracelet** for two years and I am completely satisfied with it. It relieves my pain considerably. I could no longer go on without my **Health Bracelet**. **R.B.**

I was suffering from rheumatism in my neck. My wife had a terrible pain in her arms due to an accident. We ordered two **Health Bracelets**, and much to our surprise, our pain went away. I no longer take the pain relievers or sleeping pills *because the pain has disappeared and I can sleep normally again.* I also digest better and don't have intestinal problems anymore. My wife, Mary, is no longer suffering and is very happy. We have both worn our bracelets for several years and recommend it to everyone. **Mr and Mrs G.**



When I started wearing the **Health Bracelet**, my headaches went away. I also noticed a change in my rheumatic pain, and I am not as tired anymore. My whole attitude has changed as a result. I had a couple of friends try it; the plain truth is they were completely astonished. I believe in the **Health Bracelet** and I encourage people to get one. **R.M.**

I admit I didn't believe the **Health Bracelet** could work. I felt terrible pain in my back and legs. I ordered the Bracelet. I'd been wearing it for one week when I started feeling the pain go away. After one month, the pain was completely gone. I recommended the Bracelet to several of my friends; they were all pleased with its effects. What's more, your company is honest and very reliable. **A.P.**

I had consulted four doctors for an inflammation of the joints; yet the pain persisted to the point that I could no longer sleep. With your **Health Bracelet**, I am in heaven because I now sleep throughout the entire night. Thanks to your **Health Bracelet** I am no longer in pain and I can now work normally. Thank you. **R.L.**

My friend and I have been suffering from stiff and painful joints for a long time. To our great surprise, after using the **Health Bracelet** for only two weeks, there was an unbelievable difference. I truly recommend this wonderful **Health Bracelet** to everyone. **T.C.**

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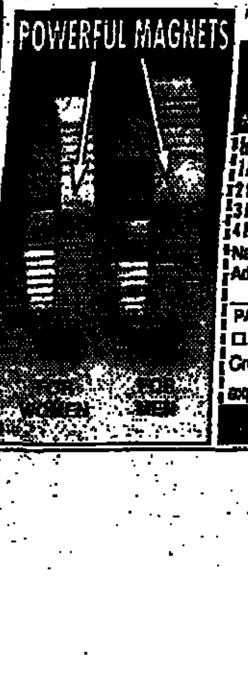

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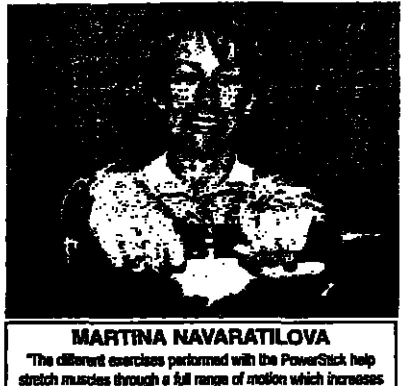

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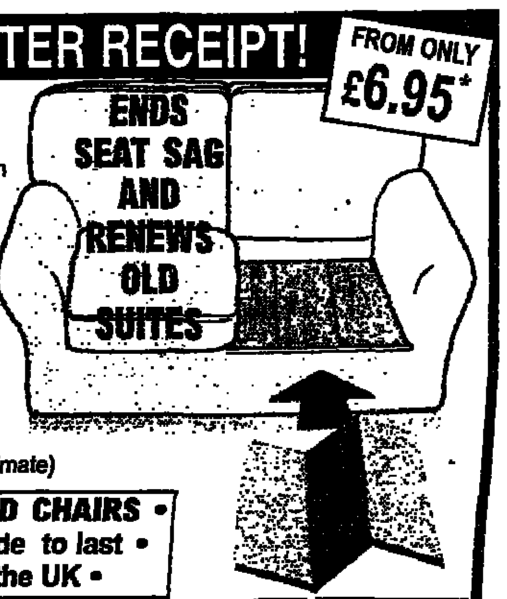

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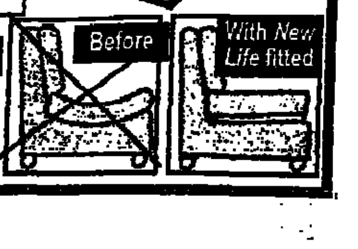

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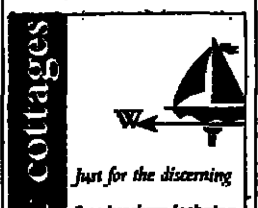

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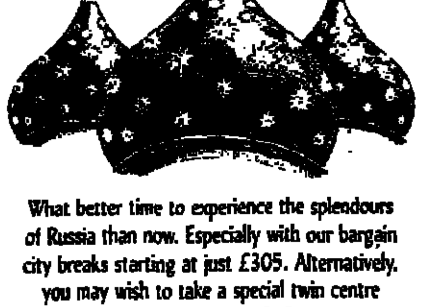

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هكذا من الاصل

CHESS

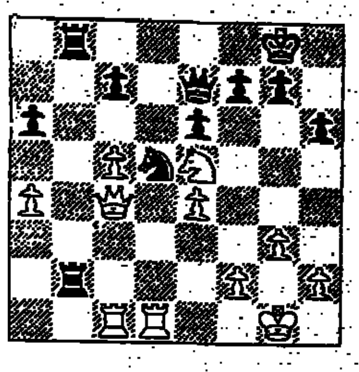
by Raymond Keene

THE outstanding player in the English team which won the gold medals in the European Team Championship at Pula, was grandmaster Matthew Sadler.

Sadler's forte is counterattack with the black pieces. Indeed, so successful is he with Black that he has notched up the amazing score of ten consecutive wins with Black in last year's chess Olympiad and the Pula competition.

The following position shows just how dangerous he can be.

White: Dizdar; Black: Sadler
European Team Championship, Pula 1997



In this position White appears to be pressing. True, Black's rooks control the b-file, but there is a latent threat of Nc6, forking Black's queen and rook, and meanwhile Black's central knight is under attack. Sadler's solution is *startling*.

23 ... Ne3

An amazing coup. White has no choice but to capture.

24 fxe3 Qg5

With the dual threats of ... Qxe5 and ... Qxe3+. If now 25 Qd4 Qh5 26 h4 Qe2 and Black wins

25 Qc3 Qh5 26 Rd8+

Again, if 26 h4 Qe2. The text hopes for 26 ... *Rxd8* 27 Qxb2 when White's problems would be over, but Black is remorseless.

26 ... Kh7 27 Rd2

An admission of defeat. White cannot retain his extra material. The weakness of his second rank has proved fatal.

27 ... Rxd2 28 Qxd2 Qxe5
29 Qd4 Qg5 30 Rf1 e5
31 Qc3 f6

Black's *combination has left him* with a rock solid position, some initiative and deadly play against White's shattered pawn structure.

32 Kg2 Qg4 33 Qc4 a5
34 h3 Qd7 35 Qc2 Qc6
36 Rd1 Rb4 37 Rd8 Rxa4
38 Rc8 Rb4 White resigns

British chess must once again express its thanks to merchant banker Duncan Lawrie which has, for so many years, supported the costs of sending the English team to international events.

At long last its efforts have been rewarded with the gold medals.

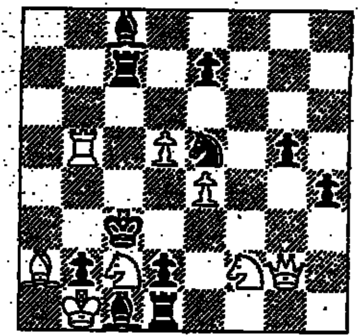
Prize puzzle

The following position is the opening puzzle for the 1997 British Chess Solving Championship.

The problem is White to play and mate in two moves against any Black defence.

Those wishing to enter should send a cheque or postal order for £3 to cover administrative expenses with their entry which should consist of White's first move only to: British Chess Problem Society, 9 Roydfield Drive, Waterthorpe, Sheffield S19 6ND.

Those entering should enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that they can be notified if they have reached the second, postal stage of the championship.



Please mention that you are entering via *The Times* when you send in your answer.

The championship is only open to UK residents and the closing date is July 31.

Good luck with your solving and I look forward to an excellent entry from *Times* readers.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

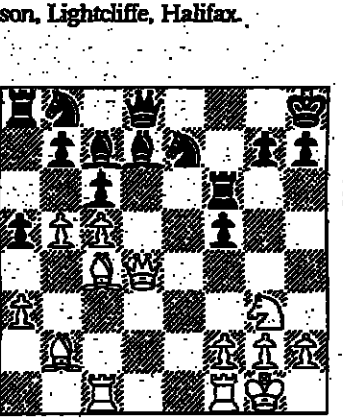
White to play. This position is from the game Staunton – Worrall, London 1859.

How did White smash through the black defences?

Send your answer on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first correct answer drawn on Thursday will win a year's subscription to the Staunton Society, which includes a free invitation to the annual dinner at Simpson's-in-the-Strand. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 ... Re2+

Last week's winner: A C Harrison, Lightcliffe, Halifax.



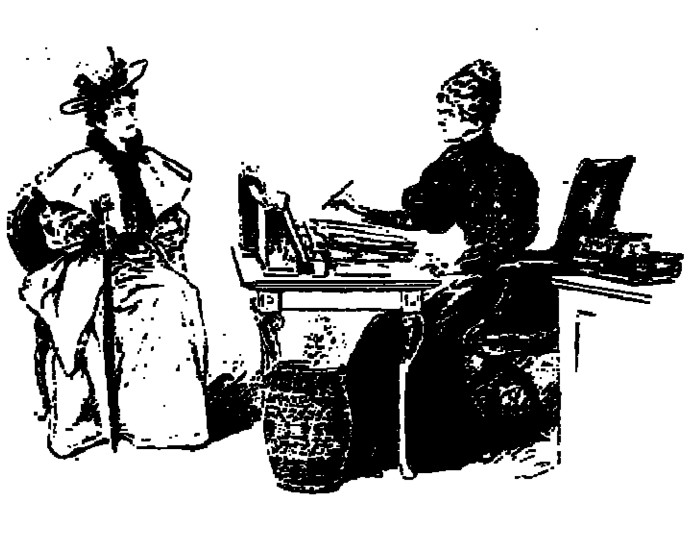
PUNCHLINE

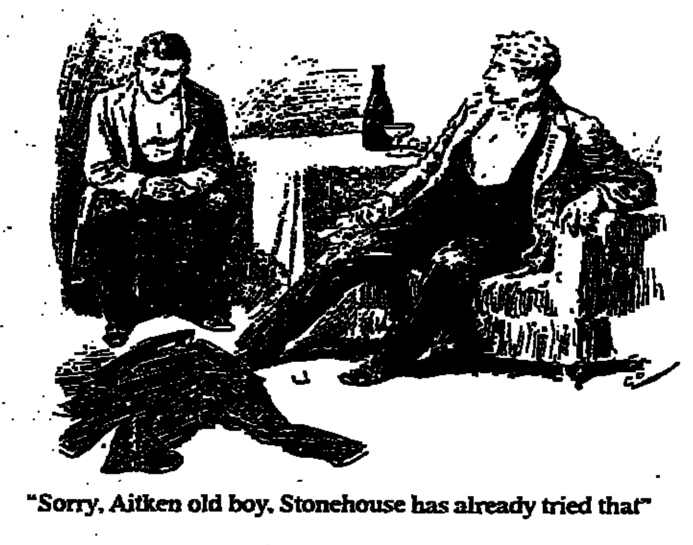
READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from *The Strand Magazine* (reproduced from Westminster Libraries, Sherlock Holmes Collection, Marylebone Library).

The cartoon will be printed again next week with a caption from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption 59, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, July 9.





"Sorry, Aitken old boy, Stonehouse has already tried that"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by D. Proffitt of St Helens, Merseyside

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SOXHLET
a. A gilt piglet
b. Chemical device
c. A musical group

CALABOOSE
a. A green vegetable
b. Sunburn lotion
c. Chokey

CARACAL
a. A gem stone
b. A feline animal
c. A surf boat

CUNETTE
a. A trench
b. A tropical vegetable
c. A drawing instrument

Answers on page 16

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

THE European Championships are generally considered the toughest of all the international tournaments. The 1997 event, the 43rd, finished last Saturday, with Britain winning the women's series. It is a splendid achievement, the eleventh time Britain has won: our last success was in 1981. This year's team was Pat Davies and Nicola Smith, Michele Handley and Sandra Landy, and Heather Dhondy and Liz McGowan, with Jimmie Arthur captain and Brian Senior coach. Davies, Smith and Landy were also in the 1981 team.

All three pairs played their part in the victory — they were all in the top ten (out of 68) in the Butler scoring table (a method of measuring a pair's performance against average). For the last week the team was neck and neck with the French, and held on to win by 12 Victory Points (a maximum win is 25 VPs). Britain will be one of the favourites in the Venice Cup (the women's world championship), to be held in Tunisia in October.

In the 35-team Open event, won by Italy (the holders), the British team (the Hackett and Tredinnick twins and Calderwood and Shek) finished strongly, scoring 123 VPs out of a possible 125 in their last five matches. But earlier indifferent play had left them with slightly too much ground to make up. Britain was seventh, seven VPs behind fifth place, the last qualifying spot for the Bermuda Bowl.

Liz McGowan (who with Heather Dhondy was in the team that won the Transnational Mixed Teams at the 1996 Olympiad) is an excellent technician. She was the declarer on the hand in the next column, in the critical match against Israel. At the time the British were leading with Israel second.

Dealer West *East-West Game* *IMPs*

West	North	East
	♠83 ♥95 ♦AK986 ♣AJ103	
♠107 ♥AK843 ♦1042 ♣954	N W E S	♠A642 ♥QJ1076 ♦75 ♣76
	♠KQJ95 ♥2 ♦QJ3 ♣KQ82	

Contract: Four Spades by South
Lead: king of hearts

Five of a minor would have been a better contract, but McGowan found herself in the slightly less secure Four Spades, against the attack of king and ace of hearts. How should she play?

See what happens if declarer ruffs the second heart. She then leads the king of spades, which East ducks. East takes the next spade and plays a heart, and now declarer is out of control — East has one more trump than she does.

McGowan saw this coming, and instead of ruffing the second heart, discarded a club. She was still safe if the trumps were three-three, and the gain came when the trumps were four-two with the ten falling doubleton — when West played a third heart dummy could ruff, enabling declarer to keep her trump holding intact. McGowan now played spades from the top, thus keeping control and only losing two hearts and the ace of spades.

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

by Tim Wapshott

IF YOU ARE thinking of buying a new joystick for your PC, then it might be worth holding off for a few months. Come October, store shelves both sides of the Atlantic will be stacked high with a new breed of vibrating stick from Microsoft, among others.

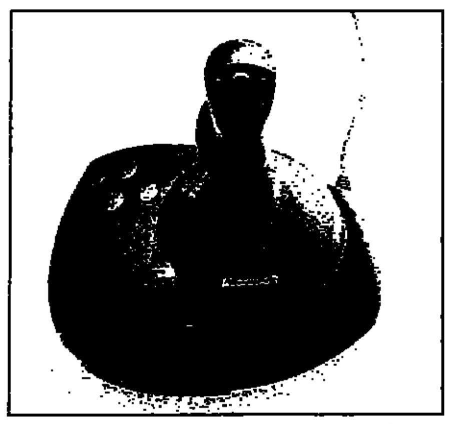
The company unveiled its sophisticated **SideWinder Force Feedback Pro** at the E3 gaming trade show in Atlanta, Georgia, recently. It looked much beefier than its original SideWinder and delivered rapid tactile sensations along the arm to heighten game play as never before. A special code written into selected game programmes tells the joystick how to respond with suitably furious feedback.

It plays to the sense of touch to deliver a new arcade feel to gameplay at home. Players will experience everything from the twang of firing an arrow with a bow and kickbacks from firing rifles and bazookas to skating on ice, jumping around on a pogo stick, cracking a baseball, the sensation of landing a jet fighter in heavy winds and the feel of G-*forces that race-car drivers encounter* on tight hairpin turns. In practice, the stick performs remarkably well and clearly adds to the enjoyment of a variety of action games.

Playmates Interactive Entertainment's **MDK: Mission Laguna Beach** was one of the first titles on show to work with the Force Feedback Pro and the wrist-wrecking shunts and bumps certainly added bucketloads to the authenticity of futuristic manoeuvres. It also worked to good effect on Microsoft's **FlightSim 98**, due out in October, making heavier weather than usual of the trials of landing a plane.

When it comes to the backlash of firing heavy artillery it works most convincingly. So much so, in fact, that the only way Microsoft might consider improving the exhausting sensations is with a clip-on sledgehammer to dislocate then shatter your shoulder each time you squeeze a trigger.

Joystick effects are computed by a 16-bit processor built into the unit, leaving computer power free to concentrate on the game alone, with *no sacrifice of speed or* graphics resolution. To the left of the joystick are programmable buttons plus many other controls and a 3-D throttle thumb wheel. The unit also uses "digital-optical technology", which is a fancy way of saying that a small sensor at the base of the joystick accurately monitors its position for constant self-righting or, with certain *games, constant off-centring.*



SideWinder Force Feedback Pro delivers rapid tactile sensations along the arm

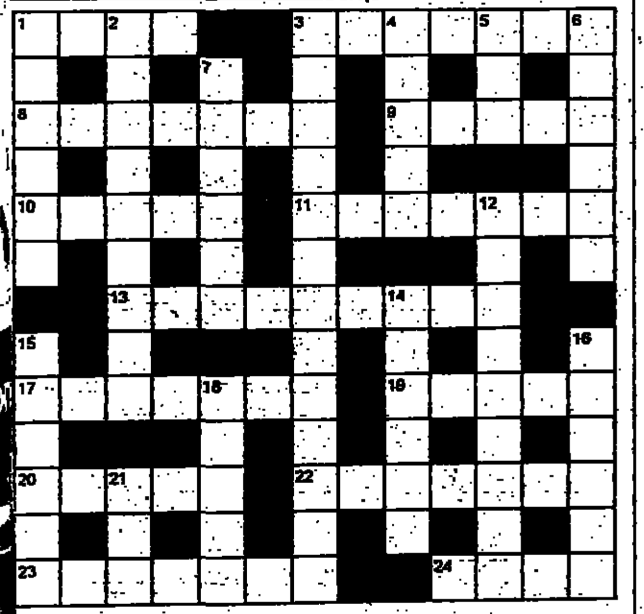
To run the Microsoft gizmo, you will need a Pentium CPU of 75MHz or better with 8 RAM, 7Mb of spare hard disk space and running Windows 95. The joystick will be sold in America for $149.95 (about £95) with three appropriate force feedback titles thrown in: Activision's **Interstate '76**, LucasArts's **Star Wars Shadows of the Empire: Battle of Hoth** and the aforementioned **MDK: Mission Laguna Beach**.

In Britain, it will be released with two of the above titles and a price is yet to be confirmed. It must be said, however, that the impressive Microsoft peripheral works best for the right-handed of this world. If, like me, you are left-handed, then you are in for plenty of headaches. It is impossible to use any of the controls on the unit, such as the throttle, without tying yourself in knots. When I raised this problem with Microsoft whizzkids at the trade show, they were quick to dismiss me and the rest of the globe's left-handed computer game players. "But 95 per cent of the world is right-*handed,*" *was their only comment* on the subject. I am not sure of the accuracy of that statement, but those who are right-handedly challenged should be aware that our demands don't figure in the eyes of these big boys.

All force feedback effects can be turned down or even off, allowing it to revert to a traditional passive joystick for ordinary games. The original SideWinder is passive but was designed beautifully, with its sturdy, self-standing half-moon base. This model, too, has been getting a makeover and will be re-released in the autumn.

To close, congratulations to the winners of **Cyberspace Thirty-Two**, who each win Pingu bundles from BBC Multimedia, including its **Pingu** CD-Rom. They are: Evie Senior of North Shields, Tyne & Wear; Richard Hall of Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire; Emma Wood of Wolverhampton; Jeffrey Joy of Lincoln; Robert England of Camberley, Surrey; Eleanor Carey of Southampton; Clare Appleby of Worcester; Thomas Lloyd of Birmingham; Richard Cooke of Edinburgh; George Nicholls of Cyncoed, Cardiff; Edmund Connolly, of Hatfield, Herts; and Emily Knight of Yeovil, Somerset.

This week's Top Tip comes from Clive Kaye of Loughton, Essex: "Get two PCs for the price of one by placing a mirror next to your PC."



No 1138

ACROSS
1 Fighting tooth (4)
3 Publicity trick (7)
8 Post by plane (7)
9 Less exciting; showman with lion (5)
0 Climber's spike (5)
1 Range of hearing (7)
3 (Tale) bear scrutiny (4,5)
7 Expressed (in words) (7)
9 Tree, fruit for oil (5)
0 Waterway (5)
2 Unthankful person (7)
3 Sack giving flood, blast protection (7)
4 Hired; church season (4)

DOWN
1 Hikes; the two waiting for Godot (6)
2 Patient-carrier; type of laid brick (9)
3 Fiftieth anniversary (6,7)
4 Car; what powers it (5)
5 A creed, doctrine (*colloq.*) (3)
6 Jap. unarmed combat (6)
7 Of the flesh (6)
12 Force 12 wind (9)
14 Depression (6)
15 Plays; games (6)
16 Pick; choice (6)
18 Cancel; stunted vegetation (5)
21 Vehicle; the front (3)

OLUTION TO NO 1137

CROSS: 1 Polarity 5 Drug 8 Tortuous 9 Fuel 1 Diced 12 Heinous 13 Minion 15 Cursor 18 Ductile 9 Fives 21 Tees 22 Strainer 23 Miró 24 Pendulum

OWN: 1 Potsdam 2 Lyric 3 Round robin 4 Touchy Raucous 7 Giles 10 Pious fraud 14 Nuclear 16 Rostrum 7 Centre 18 Datum 20 Venal

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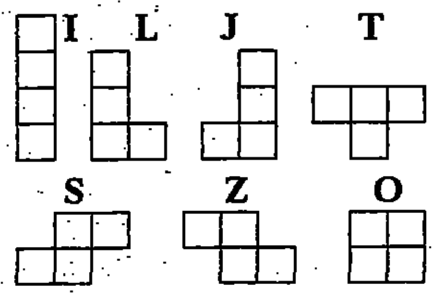
THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

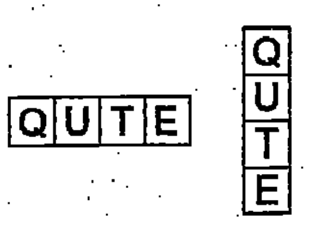
No 3417: Brick Wall by Quinapalus

IN A CERTAIN video game, bricks of various shapes composed of four squares fall one by one towards the bottom of a rectangular grid; the player can steer them left and right and rotate them in the plane of the grid as they fall; bricks can come to rest on top of the previously placed bricks, or at the bottom of the grid if there are no intervening bricks.

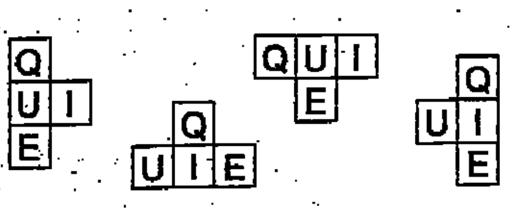
In the game played here, the grid has been completely filled with no gaps between bricks: solvers must determine the arrangement and mark the outlines of the bricks as well as entering the letters. Each brick has a corresponding clue which yields a five-letter word from which one letter is to be deleted. The definition part of the clue refers to the entire word, while the subsidiary indication refers to the letters that remain after the deletion, which do not necessarily form a word. The deleted letter indicates the shape of the brick according to the scheme below:



The remaining four letters are to be written into the grid cells which the brick occupies in order, left to right, top to bottom. For example, if a clue yields QU(I)TE (i.e. the "I" being deleted) this would correspond to an I-shaped brick:



Or, if QUI(T)E (the "T" being deleted), a T-shaped brick:



Brick clues appear in the order in which the bricks were built up from the bottom of the grid. Each row of the grid also has a corresponding clue, which is normal. Row clues appear in order from the bottom of the grid.

Chambers (1993) is recommended but does not give brick 12 (in OED); brick 33 is a regular formation also supported by OED.

Brick clues

1 Lost atlas includes old river-mouths
2 English runner
3 Begin second painting?
4 Stir up rabble
5 Layabout has head removed from alcoholic drink
6 This salt is refined from tree, taken in before food
7 Flutes and some dulcimers
8 Monarch in charge of resistance
9 Fibre displayed when ties shredded
10 Dorsal and partly frontal
11 One's back in navy: preparation required for bows
12 Straw ropes seen in roofs I'm erecting
13 "Tartan tax" for a *German* Lord
14 Insects making bovines sick, initially
15 Instances of help in flying, when holding in fixed position
16 Once pours out prayers to Mary
17 This indicates substitute aim north of the border
18 Drum with loop for hanging on right
19 Parts of feather belonging to lady
20 Explosive bit of revolver found before a flight
21 Reinforce frayed lace
22 Behold painting on dry plaster
23 Crossbowman — no jockey — seen in heavy wagons
24 Trample and chop about
25 Shabby chap, little respected in Burma?
26 Lowest points of asteroid that nears earth
27 Extra fat in odd bits of beef stew
28 Bad smell, mostly from slippery goo
29 Fast rendez-vous in Railway Street
30 Very small person, e.g. ten centimetres round
31 Divides in paragraphs
32 Military vehicles sank in struggle
33 Further ailing pound with first signs of lower exchange rate
34 Old wind instrument, almost in key
35 Cracks appearing in established society
36 Openings admitting air at end of gables
37 Channel providing music, primarily music aimed at grown-ups
38 Is deprived of cooked sole
39 Walks unevenly, result of spirits
40 Piece from Rome with sex-appeal — very Italian

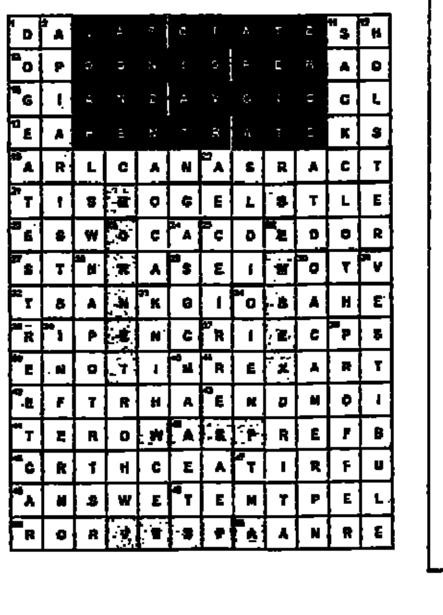
Row clues

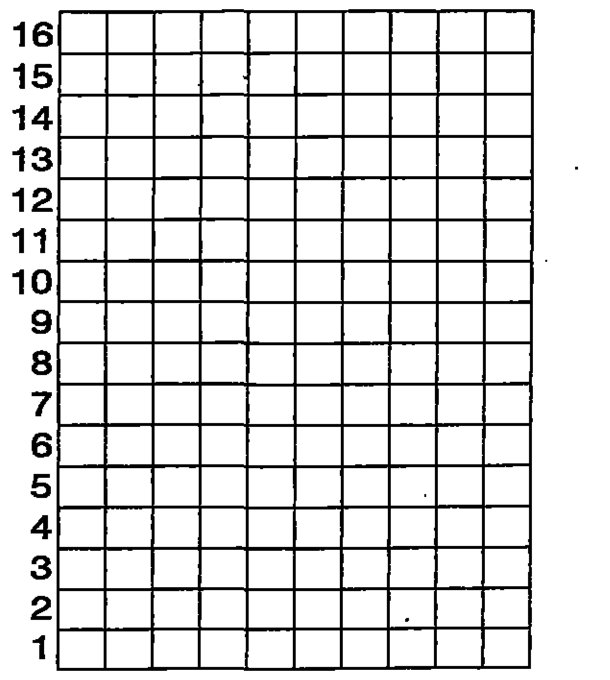
1 Surface turned to star
2 Irish vehicle emerges publicly before one sped back
3 Amateur eroticist performing ghastly acts
4 Swollen volume flowing, sluice gate losing gallons
5 Composer, largely through medium, is introduced in Indian sect
6 Check design completely after falls to bits
7 Cancellations are overturned by gents in exclusive groups
8 Nearer part fell around their ruined bit of stonemasonry
9 After sizable wrong turn informer, letting on to another
10 Round Goon, appearing in *Highway*, sporting top decoration (colourful)
11 Base crime loosely around constant destruction of toll-gates
12 Place where pearls may be had certainly accepts Japanese, British and Romanian money
13 I organise e.g. trains for French to go on fen
14 Plants bit of cereal with seeds in receptacles
15 Policeman tortures leader of scouts for negligence
16 Having no through route, steamship crew-member has to stick around

Solution to No 3411: 361 — The 31 by Hellphire

THE VESTIBULE (31 down) to Hell is the first area visited by Dante in his INFERNO (36 down). Here the indecisive run, stung by vicious wasps (see Canto III, lines 58-69). Through the shaded arch one can see into the vestibule (note the HORNET, BEMBEX and VESPA, all types of WASP), while over the arch is written LASCIATE OGNI SPERANZA VOI CH'ENTRATE, the famous "Abandon hope all ye who enter here."

The winner is G. Aspin, Swindon, Wilts. The five runners-up are C. Berman, London NW11, H. Cudmore, Cheltenham, Glos; P. Dendy, Mold, Clwyd; M. Irvine, Manchester; J. Knowler, Portsmouth.





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W

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THE TIMES

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LADIES

COOL blonde with warm personality, slim, stylish looks, sophisticated tastes but something of a workaholic WLTM an attractive Londonbased N/S man 50ish with similar tendencies, with a boyish grin & a twinkle in his eyes. Please reply with photo to Box 6042 ✍

ACHIEVERS, winners, success, personality, choice, refined, classy, choosy, E.C.

ALLURING, stylish, vivacious, feminine blue-eyed blonde, seeks gentleman as holiday companion equally solvent, witty, fit & well educated, N/S, 60ish. Dorset. Box No 5984 ☎ ✍

ALONE in Cambridge Enfield Hertford London Stevenage? Elite Introductions can help you find the right partner. Call 0181 374 4001: 0500 103410

AMERICAN Lovely lady in USA, 40'ish, 5'5" of English lineage, seeks academic/educated, family-loving gentleman/quiet village or university lifestyle for relationship/marriage in England. Please Reply Box No 6139 ✍

AMUSING with happy temperament, slim blonde,attractive & warm looking for man (40-55)to enjoy evenings full of laughter, wine & fun. Sussex/London. Photo plse. Box 6122 ✍

ANGLICIZED American woman, 44, Surrey based, attractive brunette, mother of 1 teenager, well travelled, love keeping fit, skiing & reading. Tries to see the funny side of life. WLTM thoughtful, intelligent, successful (46+) soulmate with a sparkle in his eye to bring out the best in both of us. *Photo* please. Reply to Box No 6080 ☎ ✍

ARE you aged 40-60 living in Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Swindon, Glos, Somerset or S. Wales? Are you seeking that 'special lady'? Look no further, let us help you meet her. Individual selective introductions. Please contact Perfect Partners of Bath tel 01225 482080

ATTRACTIVE busy brunette, slim, 5'6" who's job takes up far too much time is looking for an excuse to dance, drink, party, see films and shows but who also loves to keep-fit, have nice holidays, read and enjoys conversation. Are you a sporty, fun loving intellectual who sometimes likes to be serious. If you are between 30-42 write and send a photograph to Box No 5971

ATTRACTIVE prof lady 39, intelligent, warm, outgoing, no ties, enjoys travel, countryside, fun, *life in general. WLTM someone* special to share it all with. Hants/Surrey/London. Please Reply to Box No 6035 ✍

ATTRACTIVE, prof lady, 39, outgoing, warm, no ties. Enjoys countryside, travel, life in general. WLTM someone special to share it all with. Herts/Surrey/London. Box No 6184 ☎ ✍

ATTRACTIVE slim 40s brunette, independent seeks prof for fun, socialising & good times (London) Go for it!. Box 6092 ✍

BATH/Bristol postcode areas For attractive and successful introductions, call Chris now at Elite: 7 days. 0117 973 6663

CHELSEA lady, 50's, slim, attractive, warm, sophisticated, seeks well dressed, well mannered, considerate male counterpart, 45-59, N/S, with positive outlook who likes London, dining out, good conversation, concerts, etc. *Please send letter &* recent photo to Box No 6157 ✍

THE TIMES
cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be. We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

BERKS Oxon & Wilts Call Elite Introductions and take the first step towards the rest of your life 0500 003444: 7 days

COME dance with me - this artistic, slim, versatile pretty woman, London based, seeks a charismatic, professional counterpart 55+ to sweep her off her feet. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6156 ☎ ✍

COME to Glyndebourne, come skiing & enjoy all the other activities of a good life style sharing your knowledge & delight in these with a very tall, elegant post grad widow with no ties, London based who would again like to be important to a secure & loving man 60+. Photo to Box No 6073 ✍

COUNTRY girl - Cheshire, 40, blonde, loves horseriding, animals, kids, good conversation, walking, bridge, reading & opera. Seeks kind, fun loving man. Please Reply with tele. no. to Box No 6117 ✍

CREATIVE green eyed brunette, forever romantic (into tennis, cooking, cinema etc.) seeks sincere down-to-earth, N/S dark haired man 30's to have a family with & live happily ever after. London/Southeast. Photo please. Reply to Box 6086 ✍

EDUCATED but kindly man of good humour sought by female, artistic hobbies, 40's for friendship etc. South Coast. Box 5955 ✍

FOXY South American gorgeous working mother (1 boy), 42, 5'5", slim, fit, loves tennis, walking, music, museums, books, travel, cooking, & long conversations by the fire. Dying to meet a caring, loving & successful ready to commit gentleman, late 30's/40's. Photo please to Box No 6095 ✍

EXACT description of my client. Gentle, well spoken, pretty, elegant, feminine, slim, natural fair hair, a woman you would be proud to be seen with. Daughter 13 away at school, leaving her time to find someone special. If possible she would like to meet a widower from a similar social background (Public School) 50-60. Her interests: antiques, bridge, racing, skiing, music, countryside No charge for introducing you. Page me Mrs Heber Percy, Country Partners 01523 523 523 ask for pager 861501 leave complete message plus name /tel no and I'll call back or Fax 01432 370381 London/Midlands Bx 6066

FORCES Officer (30's)? You will do very nicely indeed for this sporty, lovely brunette, Yorkshire based. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6087 ✍

FREE-SPIRITED juvenile 50's loves all aspects Afro/Carib. inc. travel there, seeks like minded companion. Impossible? South. Photo. Box No 6099 ✍

FUN-LOVING black lady (Mids. based), fit, 30s, enjoys horseriding, walking & stimulating conversation. Seeks the company of a mature intelligent impish gent any nationality, for more fun possibly romance (impoverished peers need not reply). Box No 6169 ☎ ✍

GENTLEMAN 50+ accustomed to the best life can offer. Tall redhead (London), attractive I promise would like to meet you for a permanent *future*. 6077. ☎ ✍

GUINEVERE seeks Knight in shining armour. This slim, N/S lady, loving, tactile, capable, educated, attractive needs an N/S gentleman 50's, solvent, caring, sensitive, slim 5'9"+, well spoken, etc. to sweep her off her feet & ride into the sunset (Herts. area). ALA. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6074 ☎ ✍

HANDSOME sensitive hunk 40-50, educated GSOH sought by outrageous sensual siren (Surrey) *for* castle extravaganza 14th of July *especially*. Letter & photo essential. Reply immediately. Box No 6173 ✍

HAZEL-EYED, attractive, fit solicitor (36), adventurous & fun loving. (Essex based) Enjoys theatre, cinema, travelling. WLTM confident (without being arrogant) man, spontaneous & considerate. Reply with Photo please to Box No 6119 ✍

INTELLIGENT Artistic beauty seeks, powerful intelligent financially solvent gentleman to share romance love and vision with. Please Reply to Dom Feghali, Kungstensgatan 60, 2nd floor, 11329 Stockholm. Tel 0046 8 348294 ✍

INTELLIGENT, attractive, professional woman, 40's, divorced, London based seeks male partner for good times. Reply Box No 6114 ☎ ✍

INTERIOR designer, attractive, humorous, very homeloving & warm hearted, solvent (N. Hants. based) WLTM genuine male 48-58 who wants long term relationship, loves the finer things in life, travelling, entertaining & special times to share. Photo plse. *Box 6135* ✍

JEWISH, attractive, slim blonde female (South Coast), 41, interests include bridge, art, animals, WLTM N/S male who is caring & sincere with GSOH. Photo essential. Box No 6168 ✍

KENT/Bromley/SE London. Looking for that special person? Why make 100 calls when one will do. Call Elite Introductions 0181 658 7576

KIND & caring, attractive, slim female 29, sporty (squash etc.), N/S seeks single male 27-33 with similar qualities for friendship/relationship. Cambridge based. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box 6118 ✍

LONG legs, blue eyes, still-turns heads at 40 something. Witty, warm, well-read Renaissance woman WLTM tall, N/S Renaissance man. Woburn/M1 J12. Please reply to Box No 6062 ✍

MENTOR wanted by warm hearted, attractive, professional female (Asian), well educated, curvaceous. Likes foreign cultures. Seeks successful, high achiever, any nationality, must be tall, well travelled, passionate, strong yet sensitive, 34+. London/Home Counties/ W.Mids. Photo Please to box no 6147 ☎ ✍

OPTIMISTIC, romantic, N/S, tall perfumed professional, hoping to meet one hell of a guy, probably 50+ for love, trust, & mutual adoration forever. S. Bucks based. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 6179. ✍

PASSIONATE, compassionate Renaissance woman (50's) longs for kind of love which gives encouragement for individual growth yet invests the utmost in shared pleasures. Please Reply to Box No 6070

READY to move on, this vibrant petite brunette, attractive (who isn't?), with no ties, happy in her work/life now wishes to share *joie de vivre* (good company, theatre, music, food & drink) with caring, charismatic, professional 45-55.Sussex/London. Photo plse. Box 6150 ✍

RICHMOND to Runnymede, Kew to Denham (all TW/UB postcodes) seeking that special person? let us help. Call Linda at Elite 0181 580 0028: 7 days

SENSUAL, spiritual, still-turns-heads at 50s woman. Peaches & cream, eyes green, 5'6", 12-14. Seeks Cosmo, SOH, 50+ man of stature - mind, soul, body for unstuffy, honest relationship. Photo plse.London/SE. Bx 6166 ✍

SOMETIMES stunning, slim, fit, fun, well educated, quick witted, travelled conversationalist (London based)seeks similar man 40's. Box No 6152 ☎ ✍

SOUTHAMPTON You are a bright lady, 40ish, want conversation company, companionship. I am 47, computer consultant. Share my evenings, hopefully more. Box No 5628 ✍

STARTING over - (with toddler in tow!) thirties, professional, attractive blonde, fit, fun & sporty with everything but the (right) man! WLTM similar male (with or without children). SW London. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6015 ☎ ✍

STARTING over - (with toddler in tow!) thirties, professional, attractive blonde, fit, fun & sporty with everything but the (right) man! WLTM similar male (with or without children). SW London. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6015 ☎ ✍

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STYLISH, attractive, outgoing divorcee. Warwickshire based, slim blonde, 5'6", N/S. Enjoys countrylife, swimming, music, tennis, travel, cinema. WLTM an educated, kind, loving male 48-60 yrs. with GSOH & wanting to share his life & plenty of TLC with a special lady. Photo appreciated. Box No 6111 ☎ ✍

TALL, professional lady in medical field, 30's, with interest in people, nature, travel WLTM a reasonably successful gentleman with integrity and personality who appreciates the immense value of a loyal, trusting friendship. Please Reply to Box No 6029 ✍

THREE vivacious blonde ladies, discerning, independent, well travelled 37-48 seek attractive, solvent, spirited, stimulating gentlemen 38-50 for friendship, socialising & whatever may follow. Interested? S. Cheshire/W. London. Send photo please to Box No 6021 ✍

VERY attractive East Midlands based elegant lady with lively sense of humour seeks tall, good looking, successful, witty gentleman 52+ with whom to enjoy life, in particular, good food, theatre, opera, country walks & classical music. Photo essential. Box No 6098 ✍

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- Dinner Spanish Theme N1
- Cocktail party – W1
- Lunch NW1
- Cocktail party – W1
- Concert at Kenwood House
- Summer Party Regents Park
- Cocktail party W1
- Buffet dance under 35's
- Cocktail Party Knightsbridge
- Cocktail party at top hotel SW1
- Dinner/dance Kensington
- Dinner Party THE top Indian restaurant
- Cocktail Party W1 restaurants
- A 'jolly' to Paris by Eurostar

EVENTS OUT OF LONDON

- Party night Northampton
- Dinner dance top hotel Coventry
- Dinner Dance Market Harborough
- Karaoke night Northampton
- Dinner/dance Tamworth
- Summer boating & picnic at Stratford upon Avon
- Shirley Bassey in concert – Althorp House
- Paintball fight Coventry
- Barbecue/dance hotel at Cheshire
- Independence Day BBQ Bolton
- Summer Ball (Black Tie) Harrogate
- Under 45's Italian evening Chester
- "Gastronomic Dinner" party Cheshire
- Wild West Night Co. Durham
- Sunday Lunch North Wales
- Cocktail Party North Wales
- Chester Races & dinner at French Bistro
- Glide & Dine!!! Derby
- Music by Moonlight! Open air concert at Fountains Abbey Yorks
- Masked Ball Leicester
- Discovery Evening Lancs
- Dinner Cheshire under 45's
- Caribbean Night Lancs
- Dinner Glouc
- Dinner party Chester
- Dinner party Lake District
- Dinner dance/Cabaret Cheshire
- Open air concert at York featuring 60's music groups
- Dinner party country house Tyne & Wear

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BATH/Bristol postcode areas For attractive and successful introductions, call *Chris* now at Elite: 7 days. 0117 973 6663

BERKS Oxon & Wilts Call Elite Introductions and take the first step towards the rest of your life 0500 003444: 7 days

BUSINESSMAN 45, 5'7" (Glos. based), seeks attractive, slim, fun loving lady 25-35 for candlelit dinners, theatre & possibly holidays. Photo appreciated. Box No 6158 ☎ ✍

CHANGE my life!! South London based (have case will travel) solvent 40ish, fit, active, worldly male seeks feminine, independent 30ish female to steer his life back on course. Photo please to Box No 6126 ✍

COUNTRY chap, 38, single, tall, fit, excellent prospects. Enjoys country life, music, travel, theatre, squash, etc. Seeks intelligent female looking for along term relationship. Photo appreciated. Nottingham area. Reply to Box No 6123 ✍

DETACHED property circa 1960 located on the outskirts of Brighton has just come on the market after 11 years. It has been well maintained & updated, and is often mistaken for similar 1960s properties. It is in extremely good decorative order & has a young & adventurous feel to it, ideal for a younger female. Viewing highly recommended. Reply Box 6040 ☎ ✍

DIVORCED man 59, 5'11" 12½ stone, fair hair, presentable, varied interests - travel, antiques, country houses, sport, big driver. Lives life. In the middle lane, seeks attractive slimish woman 47+. SOH not important but must laugh at my jokes. Box No 6174 ☎ ✍

DOG-LOVING, successful, 38 yr old Lakes/Mids based male, considered attractive who feels that maybe fate needs a helping hand to find the right woman, attractive with SOH. Photo & reply to Box 6121 ✍

DO you want to meet a sincere friend/lover soulmate all in one. Do you need a possible romance and at the same time retain your identity. If so and you are slim, athletic, 5'4+ 25/35 with Demi Moore type looks and professional, then this professional 39 yrs gentleman with young outlook would like to hear from you. NE/London. Cambs/ Lincs/ Northants Reply Box 6040 ☎ ✍

ELIGIBLE bachelor, 32, professional, romantic & affectionate, easy going with own home. Interests: tennis, outdoors, travelling. WLTM N/S professional female to share life's adventures. Kent. Box No 6043 ✍

EXTREMELY successful entrepreneur, 40, 5'9", slim, fit, attractive, single, in his year off wishes to meet a very pretty hedonistic female over 25 for fun. I have no hang-ups or emotional baggage and nor should you. London based but can travel. Recent photo essential. No photo, no reply. Box No 6100 ✍

FOOTLOOSE, solvent, right wing retired 6'4" male, WLTM tall slim lady 55+ for slow travel into the sunset. Derbyshire based, will travel. Please reply with photo to Box No 6129 ✍

GENTLEMAN 40, fit, 6 ft, living in SE Kent, variety of interests, incl. golf, walking, music, etc. WLTM slim, feminine & loving lady to enjoy life with. Photo appreciated. Box No 6071 ☎ ✍

GREGARIOUS striking good looks, modest (!), tall, 6 ft, dark, sensuous 30's, sincere, affectionate professional seeking very attractive, tall, charming, elegant lady 20's-30's for romantic relationship. North-West. Photo to Box No 6186 ✍

HOW do you compose an ad without giving the wrong impression! Searching for that elusive lady of my dreams [illegible] she will need to be [illegible] independent, [illegible] very successful, [illegible] romantic [illegible] lives near London. If you feel you are the lady [illegible] then a letter and photograph will [illegible] Please Reply to Box No [illegible] ✍

I AM divorced, slim, 5'9", love to laugh, appreciate style in dress & home, enjoy golf, cooking & travel. WLTM similarly attractive lady, 45-58 to share & care for. W.Sussex/T.Wells area only. Photo please to Box No 6105 ☎ ✍

INTERNATIONAL businessman early 40's, London based, attractive, kind & considerate WLTM beautiful lady, 21-30 to spoil & be spoilt. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6175 ✍

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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GENTLEMEN

I HAVE dry Martini eyes & humour, a long slow fuse, fuzzy logic & active ingredients. Do you have moist lips, misty eyes, swampy depths, icy peaks, Muddy Waters, with vintage about '35/'45? If you do, call me irreplaceable & let's swap humidity. Richmond based. Don't hesitate. Reply with photo to Box No 6101 ☎ ✍

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LONDON man, young 39, likes art and travel, seeks olderlady for mutual enjoyment and benefit. Please Reply to Box No 6177 ✍

NOTTINGHAM, Leicester & Derby Call E.C. for the best service available 07000 499 8833

PROFESSIONAL male, 25, slim, 5'10", career minded but enjoys sport, scuba diving, swimming, cooking, travel, etc. WLTM independent, friendly & warm girl, 21-30 for fun times. London. Photo plse. Box 6076 ✍

PROFESSIONAL, 54, widower seeks Michelle Pfeiffer lookalike (OK, then Vera Duckworth) but must have GSOH and enjoy holidays, meals out and preferably a flair for gardening. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6171 ✍

RICH & boring? Sorry, we still won't work for you. The Executive Club of St James's

RICHMOND to Runnymede, Kew to *Denham* (all TW/UB postcodes) seeking that special person? let us help. Call Linda at Elite 0181 580 0028: 7 days

SEXY *intelligent* women seek intellectually stimulating unattached men. E.C. of course.

SKIPPER based South Coast seeks adventurous, attractive N/S lady 35-50 to crew aboard 39 ft ocean going yacht, initially in local waters, then south to sun. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 6027 ✍

SOPHISTICATED international businessman living in central London and having apts in LA & in the South of France, tall, dark & handsome & enjoying a very high standard of living. Well travelled, mature, recently divorced, no ties. I am looking for that special person to share my interests which include theatre, restaurants & most importantly travel to exotic places. You must be outgoing, very attractive and a good conversationalist, 24-34. Photo and phone number essential. Please Reply to Box No 5368 ✍

SUCCESSFUL businessman into travel, wining & dining, sailing, the country & fun generally. WLTM tall, attractive, warm, independent uncomplicated lady 30-40. Join me for the journey & let's see where it takes us. Surrey/London. Letter with photo please to Box 6064 ☎ ✍

TALL, athletic, successful businessman, forties, SW1 based looking to care for, amuse & enjoy life with a special lady who has a great figure & smile to match. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6000 ✍

TALL, 50, businessman into art, politics, travel, walks, interested in tall, uncomplicated romantic lady. London/South. Photo plse to Box No 6145 ✍

TALL, handsome, successful, brainy Hunk seeks Princess, 20-30, very attractive, intelligent who wants to share the good life. Photo please. Reply to Box 6176 ✍

TWO single solvent lads (40's) NW London, who enjoy tennis, jazz, antiques, etc seek two educated good looking girls 25-35 to share fun evenings out, good conversation, travel etc. Photo appreciated. Box 6052 ✍

UNEXPECTEDLY back on the market, this 6'3", handsome & successful MD, but warm & friendly, well travelled, GSOH, mid 40's, enjoys tennis, music, boating, cooking & generally pottering in his Hants cottage or Devon flat. WLTM tall, attractive, romantic & loving 30ish lady, sincere & amusing for a committed relationship. Reply with photo to Box No 6137 ✍

WANTED a shy charming woman about 40, to share classical music, a house of distinction in Cornwall & winter sunshine who would value the maturity & success of an older professional gentleman. Box No 6022 ☎ ✍

WEALTHY investment banker, 39, very athletic, slim, 5'9". Living in Knightsbridge seeks slim, attractive young lady 21-28 to share lavish life style. Please Reply with letter & photo to Box No 6127 ✍

WELL balanced, attractive, educated, petite widow, fair haired, now ready to live again and share travel, theatre, etc. with a cheerful lively 60ish gentleman. Near London. Photo please. Box No 6112 ✍

YOUNG ladies - look no further! If you live in the Midlands call now Elite Introductions 0121 323 3314 Open 7 days

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GAY men London/Home Counties seeking long term relationships - ring Significant Others, the gay intro bureau for professionals. 0171 494 0009

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